UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/203
S/25898
8 June 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Item 115 (c) of the preliminary list*
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 8 June 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the comments of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in connection with the fifth report on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia (S/25792), prepared by Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 115 (c) of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Comments of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the fifth report on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, prepared by Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights

I

We note with regret that once again the report of Mr. T. Mazowiecki is characterized by a one-sided presentation of developments and insistence on the almost exclusive responsibility of the Serb side for the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and that of the FR of Yugoslavia for the situation in Kosovo and Metohija. Such a discriminatory approach not only creates mistrust and dissatisfaction but also ill-serves the main purpose of the appointment of the Special Rapporteur - an objective and impartial reporting which should contribute to conflict prevention. However, Mr. Mazowiecki's report primarily offers a platform in support of the pre-conceived political considerations.

The above conclusion is confirmed, inter alia, by the methodology of the Special Rapporteur. It is characterized by inconsistency, incoherence, incomplete and out-of-context data, fragmented reporting, selective choice of events, etc. Such a manner distorts the essence of things, the import, contents and meaning of notions, definitions and qualifications.

An attempt will be made to corroborate the above claims by facts, on the basis of the fifth and previous reports (the methodology pattern being invariably the same).

SELECTIVE CHOICE OF EVENTS - SOURCES OF INFORMATION

As a rule, whenever Serb losses are in question, i.e. the suffering of the civilian population in Bosanski Brod - Sijekovac (see third report, para. 4), exodus of Serbs, destruction of monuments on the left bank of the Neretva river (Klepci, Tasovčići, Prebilovci, Mostar, etc.), the Special Rapporteur fails to include them in his reports. In other words, by resorting to the proven maxim quod non est in scriptum non est in mundo he attempts to present the preset picture of reality.

In this report, a case in point is the slaughter of the Serb population in eastern Bosnia during the Moslem offensive in December 1992 and January 1993. The Special Rapporteur made use of the already proven and effective method, i.e. that it was not possible to visit the area and collect authentic information.

/...

INCOMPLETE AND OUT-OF-CONTEXT DATA

Consistent following of reports creates an inevitable impression that it is the attitude of the Rapporteur that decides whether an information would assume the character of only an introductory premise, conclusion, recommendation or a fact. This can partly be attributed to the confusing way of reporting, a lack of adequate methodology, and partly to the channelling of information, however, there is no doubt that a balanced, comprehensive and true picture of the situation and developments is not possible to present in such a way.

For example, there can be no rational reason for placing the information that the Moslem authorities refused to allow the evacuation of the civilian population from Srebrenica in the Conclusions (para. 88) rather than in the very detailed and exhaustive description of the event.

A similar method has been applied to the recent Moslem-Croatian hostilities. Relevant information is contained in the Introduction (para 4 (a) & (c)) and in the Recommendations (para. 95). We wish to underline, however, that at the time of the preparation of this report and its submission to the United Nations, there existed absolutely solid and irrefutable evidence (visit by Gen. Morillon to Vitez between 19 and 20, statements by members of the Cheshire regiment who witnessed the massacre of Moslems, BBC photo reports) which undoubtedly enabled the Special Rapporteur to describe these events, at least in general. True, it can be noted that, in this particular case, direct reports by his independent field observers were not available but it is also a fact that the Special Rapporteur, in some other instances used "credible information" obtained from other such sources (third report, para. 33) when the alleged crimes of the Serb side were involved.

UNCRITICAL ACCEPTANCE OF INFORMATION

Finally, for the first time, this report includes the description of the situation of the Serb population in the besieged towns held by Moslem authorities. We wish to note that the unpredecented State-sponsored terrorising of these people in Sarajevo, Zenica, Bihać and elsewhere has not yet drawn the attention of the Special Rapporteur. However, we also wish to draw the attention to a shortcoming of this report. It does not mention the true and well-known reason why the Serbs wish to leave the town: to save their lives, honour and dignity, to get free, but official statements of the Moslem authorities are mentioned such as health reasons, reunion of families, citizenship and the forced mobilization as the main reason.

INCONSISTENT USE OF NOTIONS, TERMS, CLASSIFICATIONS, ETC.

Different and even diametrically opposed terms are used for the same events and developments. Thus, for example, it is claimed that the Serbs possessing arms took up arms against the Government while the same fact pertaining to the Moslems is described as armed resistance. In other words, the Special Rapporteur does not qualify the internationally clearly defined situations and behaviours with the generally valid terms, which is the obvious obligation and an impartial observer. We point to the detrimental effect of such an approach and to dangerous implications it can have for loyalty, military service obligation, etc. Suffice it to recall that forcing someone to join enemy armed formations is a war crime against the civilian population.

II

As to concrete allegations relating to the FR of Yugoslavia, we wish to draw the attention to the following.

1. Mr. Mazowiecki states that the main reason for non-submission of an adequate report on the suffering of Serbs in eastern Bosnia during the Moslem offensive in December 1992 and January 1993 is that the field staff was prevented from having access to the area by new visa regulations, and/or because no reply was received from the Yugoslav Government to that effect.

We wish to stress that the Special Rapporteur and members of his mission were duly informed, through the correspondence between him and the Permanent Mission of the FR of Yugoslavia to the United Nations Office at Geneva, that, by law, information on their precise mandate and activities was required prior to granting consent to the entry of the mission's representatives into the country. This was particularly important in view of the fact that, as of late, there have been numerous missions, observers and reporters in Yugoslavia with similar tasks and that they are all accorded the same treatment. In the last six months alone, for example, 76 various missions and 800 foreign reporters visited Kosovo.

Furthermore, since Mr. Mazowiecki stresses in the report that no observer was allowed access to eastern Bosnia, we would like to point out that in the above mentioned correspondence the position of the

Yugoslav Government was emphasized that all such and other questions regarding directly the territory in Bosnia-Herzegovina under the control of the Serb forces should be resolved in direct contacts with these Serb authorities and that this is not within the jurisdiction of the Government of the FR of Yugoslavia.

New visa regulations in the FR of Yugoslavia were introduced on 11 March 1993, i.e. long before any contacts between the Special Rapporteur and the Yugoslav Government (the Special Rapporteur approached the Yugoslav Mission in Geneva for the first time on 30 March 1993). The new visa regulations resulted from the unilateral breaches by many countries of the agreements on visa abolition so that the principle of reciprocity was applied.

Therefore, it is clear from all the above considerations that there is no basis for the allegation that new visa regulations prevented field staff to collect timely and objective information on the ground. It is rather the deliberate ignoring of the new reality with respect to the entry to the FR of Yugoslavia and, possibly, the belated submission of visa applications, so that all the blame cannot be attributed to the Yugoslav side alone.

As far as the case of Ejup Statovci is concerned, it is true that he had been tried and that he served his sentence pronounced by the Municipal Court for Petty Offences in Pristina for the criminal act under Art. 18, para. 1, subpara. 1, of the Law on Public Law and Order of the Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija. It is equally true, however, that Statovci was tried also for the ultimatum he sent to the authorities of the Republic of Serbia on 10 January 1992 requesting instant resumption of the work of the University in Pristina according to the curricula of the so-called "Republic of Kosovo". Besides, he also requested that all Serb students be removed from the University whereby an ethnically pure University would be created in contravention not only of the laws in force in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, but also of the norms of international law regulating the status and rights of national minorities.

Statovci had taught at the Faculty of Law of the University in Pristina until the Democratic League of Kosovo issued an order to its members to give up their legal regular jobs and called on students to stop attending classes. From that time on, he has been one of the most fervid organizers of the parallel school system in Kosovo and Metohija. Consequently, he appointed deans of illegal Faculties and organized parallel classes and exams in private houses and apartments. The students of this under-ground University were issued "diplomas" with the emblem of the "Republic of Kosovo". This is telltale proof that Statovci refuses to recognize the legal authorities of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, whereby he abets the secessionist aspirations of a part of the Albanian national minority in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

E. Statovci is now free since his term in prison expired on 24 April 1993.

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/204
S/25922
10 June 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Item 121 of the preliminary list*
QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 9 June 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Department of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia on the trial of Xanana Gusmao, dated 8 June 1993 (see annex), in response to the note verbale of 21 May 1993 from the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/175-S/25819).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Witjaksana SOEGARDA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Ambassador/Deputy Permanent Representative

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Statement on the trial of Xanana Gusmao issued on 8 June 1993 by the Department of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia

1. In another attempt to discredit Indonesia and to mislead international public opinion, the Government of Portugal on 21 May 1993 issued a communiqué on the sentence pronounced against Xanana Gusmao. As has become standard fare in the unending stream of Portuguese communications of this kind, this most recent communiqué is again replete with baseless accusations, malicious misinterpretations, distortion of facts and ever more strident innuendo. The Department of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia deems it appropriate and necessary, therefore, to put the record straight and to issue the following statement.

2. On 21 May 1993, Mr. Jose Alexandre "Xanana" Gusmao was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Dili District Court, East Timor. He was found guilty under articles 106, 108, and 110 of the Criminal Code. He was charged, inter alia, with leading an armed rebellion against the Government of Indonesia, disrupting national stability and illegal possession of firearms. The trial of Mr. Gusmao was conducted in accordance with the laws and regulations of Indonesia. Throughout the trial proceedings, he was assisted by legal counsel and the services of sworn interpreters. Mr. Gusmao has been accorded due process of law and was tried in a manner consistent with the rights of anyone under those laws and regulations. Mr. Gusmao has the right to appeal to a higher court or to make a request for clemency. It is therefore absurd and totally unwarranted for Portugal to make accusations that the trial of Mr. Gusmao is a "political trial" and that it "was fraught with the gravest irregularities and outrages", and that witnesses had been subjected to coercion and abuse.

3. Throughout his detention and the trial proceedings, Mr. Gusmao was treated in a manner consistent with international standards. He was also visited by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Mr. Amos Wako, the personal envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General. The trial - in a civil court of law - was open to the public and observed by diplomats, foreign journalists, including nine Portuguese journalists, representatives of Asia Watch and the International Commission of Jurists, as well as by a representative of the United Nations Secretary-General. The trial proceedings were also attended by the defendant's close relatives, including his parents, his sister and others.

4. It should be noted that those who were detained along with Mr. Gusmao have also been accorded due process of law. They were all treated humanely and ICRC also visited them.

5. The Government of Indonesia categorically rejects the claim of Portugal that Indonesia lacks "any political, moral or legal authority" to conduct the trials against Mr. Gusmao and those who are committing acts in violation of the Indonesian laws and regulations. It should be recalled that after the irresponsible abandonment of East Timor by the erstwhile Portuguese colonial authorities in August 1975, the people of East Timor have rightfully exercised their right to self-determination and decolonization. This they did by choosing independence through integration with Indonesia in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and

principles VI, VIII and IX of its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, and as confirmed by the relevant provisions of resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, thereby terminating their former colonial status. Thus, the true fact of the situation is that, by utterly failing in its responsibility, Portugal has indeed forfeited any right or legitimacy to be still considered the administering Power of East Timor. For these reasons Indonesian laws and regulations are applicable to anyone for committing acts in contravention of those laws and regulations. The trial of Mr. Gusmao is therefore fully within the jurisdiction of Indonesia.

6. Another attempt at disinformation by the Government of Portugal can be seen in their effort to establish a linkage between the Government of Indonesia and certain media reports accusing Mr. Amos Wako, the personal envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General, of having influenced Mr. Xanana Gusmao in the presentation of his defence plea. These media reports have subsequently been proven to be without foundation and, as evident in the official statement made, the Government of Indonesia has never given credence to those reports. The clarifications made by the Secretary-General in his statement on 21 May 1993 is greatly appreciated by the Government of Indonesia. The Government of Indonesia has full confidence in the mission carried out by Mr. Amos Wako, the personal envoy of the Secretary-General.

7. It is obvious that the Government of Portugal has once again seized the opportunity, this time utilizing the occasion of the trial of Mr. Gusmao, to intensify its campaign to discredit Indonesia and to undermine the serious efforts by the United Nations Secretary-General to find a comprehensive and internationally acceptable solution to the question of East Timor through the tripartite dialogue. The continuing barrage of baseless accusations and the intensified campaign waged against Indonesia have put in serious doubt the goodwill and seriousness of Portugal in finding a solution to the question of East Timor through the dialogue under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General.

8. It is to be hoped that the trial of Mr. Gusmao will focus world attention on the tragic consequences of a policy of violence and conflict as carried out by Mr. Gusmao's followers and sympathizers. It is also to be hoped that peace and development can now replace the security disruptions that prevailed in East Timor in the past and that the sincere and serious efforts of the world community can now be focused on what is best in the long-term interest of the people of the province.

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/205
S/25923
10 June 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Items 34, 35, 42, 55, 79, 86, 92 and 149 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
CONSEQUENCES OF THE IRAQI OCCUPATION OF AND AGGRESSION AGAINST KUWAIT
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 9 June 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the Arabic text of the statement of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its forty-seventh session held at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 7 and 8 June 1993.

* A/48/50.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, under agenda items 34, 35, 42, 55, 79, 86, 92 and 149, and as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad J. SAMHAN
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its forty-seventh session, held at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 17 and 18 Dhu'lhijjah A.H. 1413 (7 and 8 June A.D. 1993)

The Ministerial Council held its forty-seventh session on 17 and 18 Dhu'lhijjah A.H. 1413 (7 and 8 June A.D. 1993) at the headquarters of its Secretariat at Riyadh, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Rashid Abdullah al-Noaimi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates, Chairman of the current session of the Ministerial Council, in the presence of:

His Excellency Sheikh Isa Bin Muhammad Al Khalifa, Ambassador of the State of Bahrain to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

His Excellency Mr. Yousef Bin Al-Alawi Bin Abdulla, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman;

His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassem Bin Jabr Al Thani, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar;

His Excellency Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait.

The Ministerial Council took the occasion of the twelfth anniversary of the auspicious launching of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to convey to Their Majesties and Excellencies the leaders of the GCC States its sincerest congratulations, praying to the Almighty that it might accomplish the desired goals and objectives in the interests and welfare of the peoples and States of GCC.

The Ministerial Council reviewed the latest regional and international developments and considered the situation in the region in the light of the Iraqi regime's continued procrastination in implementing the relevant Security Council resolutions concerning its aggression against the State of Kuwait. The Council condemns the Iraqi regime for its attempt to shirk its international obligations, for its violation of the terms of the cease-fire laid down by Security Council resolution 687 (1991) and other relevant resolutions, and for its continued threatening of the sovereignty and independence of the State of Kuwait and its jeopardizing of security and stability in the region.

The Council commends the adoption of Security Council resolution 833 (1993), which gives definitive recognition to the results of the Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission and guarantees the inviolability of the international border between the two countries in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VII of the Charter, for the genuine contribution of that resolution to the strengthening of security and stability in the region. The Council expresses its appreciation to the States members of the Security Council for

their objective and just stance and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman and members of the Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission for their untiring efforts in carrying out their task in such a precise and just manner.

The Council reaffirms its constant position regarding the need for Iraq to implement all the relevant Security Council resolutions concerning its aggression against the State of Kuwait, and all the articles of resolution 687 (1991), in particular those relating to the release of Kuwaiti and other prisoners and detainees, the recognition of the international boundary between the two countries on the basis of the Agreed Minutes of 1963 and in accordance with Security Council resolutions 687 (1991), 773 (1992) and 833 (1993), the payment of compensation, the speedy return of stolen property and the facilitation of the tasks of the international inspection teams entrusted with the elimination of weapons of mass destruction. Iraq should undertake not to commit or support any acts of terrorism or sabotage. The Ministerial Council urges the international community to continue to exert pressure on the Iraqi regime to undertake to implement fully all the resolutions of international legality.

While reaffirming its absolute attachment to the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq, the Council places full responsibility on the Iraqi regime for the bloody repression to which the fraternal Iraqi people have been subjected and for any other human suffering it may be experiencing as a result of the refusal of that regime to implement Security Council resolutions 706 (1991) and 712 (1991), which deal with the needs of Iraq in respect of foodstuffs and medicine.

The Council also reviewed developments in the relationship with the Islamic Republic of Iran and reaffirmed its full support for the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over its three islands, Abu Musa, the Greater Tunb and the Lesser Tunb. It reiterates its support for all measures and peaceful means that may be adopted by the United Arab Emirates to recover its sovereignty over its islands.

The Ministerial Council also welcomed the agreement which has been reached between the United Arab Emirates and the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning their desire and willingness to engage in further dialogue between the two countries for the resolution of all matters pending.

The Council reaffirms its full solidarity with and complete support for the measures taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to ensure the safety of pilgrims to Makkah and to enable them to perform the obligation of the pilgrimage in safety, comfort and tranquillity, in accordance with the teachings of the Islamic religion.

The Ministerial Council considered the developments of the peace process in the Middle East in the light of the end of the ninth round of bilateral negotiations and welcomes the agreement of the parties concerned to hold the tenth round in June of the current year. The Council renews its full support for the peace process, which is aimed at reaching a just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), the

principle of land for peace, the achievement of a complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, first and foremost Jerusalem, the guaranteeing of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to self-determination, and the establishment of firm foundations on which to guarantee security and stability in the Middle East.

The Ministerial Council urges the international community to take what steps are necessary to induce Israel immediately to lift the state of embargo imposed on the occupied Arab territories, to respect the rights of Palestinians in the occupied territories, which are guaranteed by the fourth Geneva Convention, to begin implementation of Security Council resolution 799 (1992), to refrain from violating the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978) calling upon Israel to withdraw unconditionally from all Lebanese territory in conformity with the spirit of the peace efforts being exerted and confidence-building measures.

The Ministerial Council notes with grave concern the continued severe and painful human suffering of the people of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a result of the continued evil Serbian aggression and the violation by irregular Serbian forces, supported by Serbia and Montenegro, of the instruments of the United Nations, as well as their challenge to international legality.

The Ministerial Council renews its condemnation of the Serbian aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the perpetration by the Serbian forces of the most repugnant crimes of genocide and their practice of the repugnant policy of ethnic cleansing, arbitrary killings, organized rape, terror, displacement of persons, starvation and destruction of houses and places of worship. It urges the Security Council to take immediately all the necessary measures to enable the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to exercise its right to self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, and to lift the arms embargo imposed on it.

In the light of Security Council resolution 836 (1993), the Ministerial Council urges the Security Council to take all the measures allowed under Article 42 of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations to restore international peace and security and to compel the forces of aggression to abide by the resolutions of international legality, to refrain from rewarding the aggressors by preventing changes in the demographic make-up or the achievement of territorial gains through a policy of imposing a fait accompli, and to compel the Serbian forces to withdraw and respect the independence, sovereignty and unity of the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Council also urges the international community to tighten the sanctions and to increase the pressure on Serbia and Montenegro.

The Council expresses its concern over the regrettable incidents which have taken place recently against the forces of the United Nations in Somalia. It hopes that the latest Security Council resolution will strengthen the progress of security and stability in this fraternal country. On the basis of the agreement of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Damascus Declaration States at their sixth meeting in September last year at Doha, Qatar, to hold their seventh meeting at Abu Dhabi, following a generous invitation from the Government of the United Arab Emirates, the Ministerial Council looks forward to this meeting, which will be held at Abu Dhabi on 12 June of the current year in

continuation of the cooperation which has characterized all the previous meetings between the eight States.

The Council welcomes the independence of Eritrea and looks forward to establishing firm relations which are consonant with the historical links and will contribute to the strengthening of security and stability in the region.

On the economic and cultural side, the Council examined the minutes of the relevant ministerial committees and welcomed the positive results achieved by the joint meeting between the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the GCC countries and the European Community. It expressed its hope that the bilateral Joint Committee due to convene next month will arrive at practical proposals which further the joint interests of both sides. The Ministerial Council also expressed its satisfaction with the positive results achieved by the first conference of GCC and United States businessmen.

The Ministerial Council expressed its thanks to the Government of Belgium for hosting the fourth session of the Joint Ministerial Council and for the facilities which it has provided to open a permanent GCC mission to the European Community at Brussels.

UNITED NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/206
S/25932
11 June 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Item 79 of the preliminary list*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 11 June 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter from His Excellency Mr. Vladislav Jovanovic, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addressed to you (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 79 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Letter dated 11 June 1993 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia addressed to the Secretary-General

Highly appreciative of your experience and authority, I am writing to ask you kindly to intercede to bring about the implementation of the Agreement on the Exchange of Prisoners of War concluded between the Governments of the Republic of Croatia and of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in Budapest on 7 August 1992. The implementation of this Agreement has been stalled primarily by the refusal of the Government of the Republic of Croatia to fulfil the commitments it has undertaken.

Proceeding from an unfounded allegation that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia committed aggression against the territory of the Republic of Croatia (Armed conflicts started with the aggression of the Republic of Croatia against the Serb people and have taken place exclusively in the territories which historically and ethnically belong to the Serb people and have never been part of an independent Croatian State.), the Croatian Government is pursuing ethnic cleansing and committing genocide in the territory under its control, violating thus the basic principles of humanity and international law. The Government of the Republic of Croatia has taken the same attitude also in respect of its commitments emanating from international conventions on prisoners of war and the agreements with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the Exchange of POWs. I therefore wish to draw your attention to the following:

- Although it has undertaken to provide the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) with a list of all POWs in its territory, the Croatian Government has not done that yet. More than 1,000 POWs, on whom there exist reliable data, have not been registered with the ICRC. The competent Yugoslav commission for the exchange of POWs has informed the ICRC of this fact.

- The lists of POWs submitted to the ICRC by the Republic of Croatia include civilians of Serb nationality from territories in the Republic of Croatia in which there have been no armed hostilities. Because of their Serb nationality and Orthodox religion, these persons were arrested, maltreated, proclaimed POWs and offered for exchange. A number of these persons do not want to be exchanged, refusing to give up their property in the Republic of Croatia. The Croatian side put these persons back in prison, subjected them to torture and offered them for exchange again. This is a glaring example of ethnic cleansing and unlawful seizure of property.

- During the armed conflict and in its aftermath, 220 former JNA soldiers, citizens of Yugoslavia, were killed or died from the consequences of torture in prisoner camps and prisons controlled by Croatian authorities, while thousands were maltreated, beaten and humiliated in a manner unrecorded in the history of past wars. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will release a statement on war crimes against POWs soon.

- The Croatian side refused to exchange or provide appropriate information about the destiny of 50 former JNA soldiers taken prisoner and held captive in prisoner camps in Split, Slavonski Brod and elsewhere. It is believed that the Croatian authorities have killed them, committing thus the most serious crime against humanity and violating the Geneva Conventions on POWs.

- The President of the Republic of Croatia has not replied to the letter of the President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, requesting that the two Presidents intercede in the release of remaining POWs.

Because of such an attitude of the Croatian side to the implementation of the said Agreement on the Exchange of POWs, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has informed the Croatian side and the ICRC of the following:

- The Yugoslav side has released all POWs in its territory;

- The Yugoslav side will do its utmost to exchange - release an additional 17 persons in its territory, although they do not have POW status. These are the persons convicted for committing criminal acts outside combat zones and terrorists infiltrated into the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for the purpose of mining the bridge on the Danube and committing other terrorist acts.

- The Yugoslav side is still prepared, for confidence-building purposes, to have a tripartite commission, consisting of representatives of the Republic of Croatia, ICRC and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, tour the sites in Yugoslavia where, according to the Croatian Government, POWs or other arrested citizens of Croatian nationality are kept and to inspect their condition (No such camps exist in the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.). It would be appreciated if the Government of the Republic of Croatia displayed such readiness in respect of the camps for POWs and citizens of Serb nationality existing in the territory of the Republic of Croatia.

Since the Yugoslav side has fulfilled its commitments under the Agreement on the Exchange of POWs, I appeal to you to use all your authority and influence to have the Republic of Croatia fulfil its international commitments without delay and to exchange all POWs.

I also call upon the international community to bring pressure to bear on the Republic of Croatia to provide information about the destiny of 50 former JNA soldiers taken prisoner, for whom there exists reasonable doubt that they not only were tortured, but even killed in Croatian camps. Pressure should also be brought to bear on the Republic of Croatia to stop ethnic cleansing in its territory by arresting citizens - civilians of Serb nationality and putting their names on POW lists in order to exchange them. And finally, it would be

very useful if, under Your Excellency's guidance and authority, the international community assisted in establishing an effective service for searching missing persons in the territory of the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIĆ
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister
of Foreign Affairs

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/207
S/25936
14 June 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Items 109, 110, 114 and 115 (b) of the
preliminary list*
RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING QUESTIONS
RELATING TO THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION
AND TO YOUTH, AGEING, DISABLED PERSONS
AND THE FAMILY
REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, QUESTIONS
RELATING TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND
DISPLACED PERSONS AND HUMANITARIAN
QUESTIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS
QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE
APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE
ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 11 June 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith information on the adverse effects of sanctions on the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (see annex).**

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 109, 110, 114 and 115 (b) of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIĆ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

---

* A/48/50.

** The annex is being circulated in the original language of submission only.

ANNEX

CONTENTS

	Page
United Nations sanctions imposed on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the light of the norms of international law on equality and self-determination of peoples and respect for fundamental human rights .	2
Sanctions and health	5
Position and problems of children (refugee children included) in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as a consequence of the war in the territory of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and of the imposition of sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia .	7
Adverse effects of the sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council resolution 757 (1992) in respect of international educational and cultural cooperation	11
Sanctions of the United Nations Security Council and minority rights in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	14
United Nations sanctions and scientific and technological development in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	16
Environmental impact of sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	18
Sanctions and social benefits remittances to Yugoslavia	19
Security Council sanctions imposed in the field of transport and communications	20
Sports and sanctions	22
Aide-mémoire on the refugee problem in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	23
The latest data on the number and structure of refugees from the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and their social status	26

UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS IMPOSED ON THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN LIGHT OF THE NORMS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW ON EQUALITY AND SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES AND RESPECT FOR FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS

I

THE YUGOSLAV CRISIS CAUSED BY FORCIBLE AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL SECESSION OF SOME REPUBLICS COMPOSING FORMER YUGOSLAVIA BROUGHT ABOUT NATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS CONFLICTS OF ENORMOUS PROPORTIONS. WE ARE CONCERNED AND ALARMED AT THE PRESENT SITUATION WHICH MAKES IT INCUMBENT UPON US TO INVEST FURTHER EFFORTS TOWARDS FINDING A PEACEFUL AND JUST SOLUTION IN THE INTEREST OF ALL PEOPLES WHO LIVED IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAV FEDERATION.

THE PAST EFFORTS OF THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THROUGH UN, CSCE AND EC FORA, HAVE NOT, UNFORTUNATELY, YIELDED SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

ONE-SIDED AND POLITICALLY MOTIVATED UN SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA DISREGARD THE ACTUAL AND LEGAL SITUATION CREATED BY CONFLICTS IN THE TERRITORY OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA AND IGNORE THE ROLE OF CROATIA AND OTHER INTERNAL AND OUTSIDE FACTORS IN THIS CONFLICT IN THE DEEPENING OF THE CRISIS. THIS IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE CHARACTER OF THE PEACE INITIATIVE THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD BE GUIDED BY, AS WELL AS BY ITS GOALS AND THE NATURE OF ACTIVITIES. THE IMPOSITION OF THE WILL OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THROUGH SANCTIONS IS BEING JUSTIFIED BY HIGHER INTERESTS OF PEACE AND STABILITY IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WITHIN THE YUGOSLAV, BALKAN AND BROADER EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK AS WELL AS BY HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS.

THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS ON THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IS SINGULAR ILLUSTRATION OF DOUBLE-STANDARD APPROACH TO THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF THE CONSTITUENT PEOPLES IN FORMER YUGOSLAVIA TO SELF-DETERMINATION. IN THIS CONTEXT, LET US RECALL THAT THE PROCLAMATION OF NEW STATES IN THE TERRITORY OF FORMER YUGOSLAVIA HAS BEEN WELCOMED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS A KIND OF ACHIEVEMENT IN THE EXERCISE OF THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHT OF NATIONS TO SELF-DETERMINATION, WHEREAS THE SERB NATION'S INVOCATION OF THE SAME RIGHT AIMED AT RESOLVING ITS OWN POLITICAL AND LEGAL STATUS, HAS BEEN MET WITH OPEN OPPOSITION AND THE STRONGEST CONDEMNATION. THUS, SERBS BECAME A PEOPLE WHO WERE DENIED THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND CONTINUATION OF LIFE IN THEIR OWN STATE. THEY WERE ACCUSED OF 'AGGRESSION' AND 'OCCUPATION' OF TERRITORIES IN WHICH THEY LIVED FOR CENTURIES AS THE MAJORITY POPULATION. THE WORLD PUBLIC WELCOMED THE DEMOLITION OF THE BERLIN WALL AND THE UNIFICATION OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE. THEREFORE, IT IS ABSURD THAT THE SAME PUBLIC SUPPORTS THE ERECTION OF ANOTHER WALL WHICH DIVIDES AN EUROPEAN PEOPLE - SERBS.

FURTHERMORE, THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IS DENIED ITS INTERNATIONAL AND LEGAL PERSONALITY AND ITS MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. IN THIS, THE FACT THAT THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, WHOSE REPUBLICS SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO WERE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED STATES EVEN BEFORE THE CREATION OF YUGOSLAVIA IN 1918, HAS CONTINUED YUGOSLAVIA'S PERSONALITY WHICH HAS EXISTED FOR OVER 70 YEARS IS TOTALLY IGNORED.

BY RECOGNIZING SECESSIONIST REPUBLICS, THE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED BORDERS OF YUGOSLAVIA WERE VIOLATED, WHILE ADMINISTRATIVE BORDERS AMONG FEDERAL UNITS WERE PROCLAIMED STATE BORDERS. IN SUCH A MANNER, IT WAS ONLY THE SERB PEOPLE WHO, AS THE MAJORITY PEOPLE LIVING IN MANY PARTS OF FORMER SFRY, WAS DENIED THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN THE TERRITORIES OUTSIDE ADMINISTRATIVE BORDERS OF THE FEDERAL UNIT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA.

IN THIS CONNECTION, ONE SHOULD RECALL THAT THE PRINCIPLES OF THE EQUALITY AND SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES, ENSHRINED IN THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW CONCERNING FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND COOPERATION BETWEEN STATES, PROVIDE FOR AT THE GENERAL INTERNATIONAL LEVEL THE RIGHT TO FREE AND UNIMPEDED DEVELOPMENT OF EVERY PEOPLE REGARDLESS OF THE STATUS OF TERRITORY OR STATE WITHIN WHOSE BORDERS IT LIVES. THE UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF ALL PEOPLES HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER FROM THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES AND FROM THE BILL OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

II

IN UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 757 OF 30 MAY 1992 IT IS EXPLICITLY SAID THAT THE MEASURES OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA ARE BEING IMPOSED ALSO BECAUSE OF 'THE NEED FOR THE EFFECTIVE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THOSE OF ETHNIC MINORITIES'. HOWEVER, IT SOON BECAME APPARENT THAT THE MEASURES IMPOSED BY THIS RESOLUTION, PARTICULARLY THE INSISTENCE ON THEIR STRICT IMPLEMENTATION, HAD MADE THIS GOAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS EVER MORE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE AND ACCOUNTED FOR THE INCREASING LOSS OF FAITH IN THE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE DIGNITY AND WORTH OF THE HUMAN PERSON ENSHRINED IN THE CHARTER AS WELL AS IN THE EQUAL RIGHTS OF NATIONS LARGE AND SMALL.

ADMITTEDLY, THE PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTION 757 DO NOT QUESTION THE NEED TO RESPECT FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS. HOWEVER, BY THEIR CONTENT, THE MEASURES OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS IMPOSED AGAINST THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA BY THE RESOLUTION GO A LONG WAY IN DOING PRECISELY THAT AS THEY CREATE

THE CONDITIONS IN WHICH THE CITIZENS IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA FIND IT EVER MORE DIFFICULT TO EXERCISE EVEN THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS. THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE SANCTIONS IN EVERYDAY LIFE IN THE CONDITIONS OF MOUNTING ECONOMIC RECESSION AND DISRUPTION OF FOREIGN TRADE AND MONETARY TRANSACTIONS HAVE HAD A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE EXERCISE OF MANY UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FIELDS AND, BY EXTENSION, ON THE SATISFACTION OF ESSENTIAL HUMAN NEEDS.

THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN ENSURING RESPECT FOR, AND INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF, HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY IMPAIRED BY THE IMPOSITION OF UN SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA. IT HAS BECOME EVIDENT THAT SOME OF THE MEASURES ARE IN DIRECT CONTRAVENTION OF IUS COGENS OF GENERAL INTERNATIONAL LAW. THUS, THE SUSPENSION OF ALL FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA HAS ACCOUNTED FOR THE SUSPENSION OF PAYMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS TO RECIPIENTS IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, WHICH IS CONTRARY TO ARTICLE 9 OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS GUARANTEEING THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO SOCIAL SECURITY AND INSURANCE. CONSEQUENTLY, EVEN THOSE HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERED AT THE PRESENT-DAY LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO BE THE BASIC RIGHTS FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF PROTECTION OF LIFE AND HEALTH AND THE RESPECT FOR PERSONAL DIGNITY AND HONOUR CANNOT BE GUARANTEED.

THE SUSPENSION OF SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND CULTURAL COOPERATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE OBLIGATIONS OF STATES UNDER ARTICLE 15, PARA 4, OF THE SAME COVENANT RELATING TO THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TIES AND COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND CULTURE.

THE GENERAL TREND OF DETERIORATING LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA CAUSED BY UN SANCTIONS IS CONTRARY ALSO TO THE COERCIVE NATURE OF THE EFFECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL NORMS CONTAINED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ARTICLE 11, PARAS 1 AND 2, OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS RECOGNIZING "THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO AN ADEQUATE STANDARD OF LIVING FOR HIMSELF AND HIS FAMILY, INCLUDING ADEQUATE FOOD, CLOTHING AND HOUSING, AND TO THE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING CONDITIONS" AS WELL AS THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO BE FREE FROM HUNGER.

THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION IS IN DIRECT CONTRAVENTION OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH, IN ITS ARTICLE 27, PROVIDES THAT "EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT FREELY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CULTURAL LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY, TO ENJOY THE ARTS AND TO SHARE IN SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENT AND ITS BENEFITS". FURTHERMORE, ARTICLE 19 OF THE COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS ENVISAGES THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO EXCHANGE ALL KINDS OF INFORMATION. EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS HAVE ACHIEVED TODAY SUCH A LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT THAT THEIR UNHAMPERED COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT IS INCONCEIVABLE WITHIN NARROW NATIONAL BOUNDARIES OF A COUNTRY WITHOUT COOPERATION, COORDINATION AND JOINT PROJECTS IN SCIENTIFIC, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIONS IN BROADER REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES.

THE EFFECTS OF THE UN SANCTIONS HAVE EVEN MORE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS IN EVERYDAY LIFE ALSO AS A RESULT OF THE FAILURE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 724 (1991) CONCERNING YUGOSLAVIA TO MEET THE ESSENTIAL HUMAN NEEDS OF THE POPULATION IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA. TURNING A DEAF EAR BY THE COMMITTEE TO THE REQUEST OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA FOR THE IMPORT OF FUELS, MEDICINE AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, NECESSARY TO MEET THE ESSENTIAL HUMAN NEEDS, IS CONTRARY TO THE PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN THE PREAMBLE OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH RECOGNIZE, IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE THE EQUALITY OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN FAMILY, THE INHERENT DIGNITY AND EQUAL AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS. FREEDOM FROM FEAR AND WANT AND THE CREATION OF SUCH LIVING CONDITIONS WHICH SHOULD ENSURE TO EVERYONE THE EXERCISE OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

THE PURPOSE OF ENFORCEMENT MEASURES IN THE UN SYSTEM OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY IS TO FORCE A NON-COMPLYING STATE TO ACT IN A WAY WHICH WILL NOT CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. HOWEVER, BY THE FAILURE TO ACT AND THROUGH THE EFFECTS OF MEASURES DELIBERATELY AGGRAVATING AND DETERIORATING THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE POPULATION, THE UNITED NATIONS INFLICTS EVER GREATER SUFFERING UPON THE POPULATION DEPRIVING THEM OF THEIR ESSENTIAL NEEDS OR OF THE POSSIBILITY TO PRESERVE THE BASIC HUMAN VALUES SUCH AS LIFE, HEALTH, HUMAN DIGNITY AND HONOUR.

THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949 AND THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS THEREOF EXPLICITLY PROHIBIT VIOLATION OF THESE BASIC HUMAN VALUES ALSO DURING ALL ARMED CONFLICTS, INTERNATIONAL AND NON-INTERNATIONAL. THIS OBLIGATION IS EVEN MORE EXPLICIT IN SO FAR AS THE UN PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS ARE CONCERNED.

THE CONCLUSIONS TO BE MADE FROM THE ABOVE OBSERVATIONS COULD BE SUMMED UP AS FOLLOWS:

- THE ONE-SIDED NATURE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH NEUTRALITY AND UNIVERSAL ROLE OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION, BECAUSE OF THE DISREGARD OF, AND DISRESPECT FOR, THE COGENT PRINCIPLES OF PROHIBITIONS OR THE THREAT OF FORCE AND OF NON-ACTION ON THE PART OF OTHER INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL FACTORS, THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF WHICH ONLY SERVES TO PROLONG THE WAR IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA AND ESCALATE THE YUGOSLAV CRISIS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE UNITED NATIONS HAS COMPLETELY IGNORED THE APPEALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA TO RE-EXAMINE THE PURPOSEFULNESS OF THE SANCTIONS DESPITE WELL-DOCUMENTED ASSERTIONS THAT THE REASONS FOR THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS HAVE BEEN REMOVED.

- THE EFFECTS OF THE SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE COGENT PRINCIPLE OF EQUALITY AND THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES SINCE THE ISOLATION OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND THE CARVING UP OF THE ETHNIC ENTITY OF THE SERBIAN PEOPLE

BY THE RECOGNITION OF OTHER STATES IN THE TERRITORY OF FORMER YUGOSLAVIA PREVENT THE SERBIAN PEOPLE FROM FREELY DECIDING ON THEIR OWN FATE.

- FINALLY, THE EFFECTS OF THE UN SANCTIONS ARE IN OUTRIGHT CONTRAVENTION OF THE NORMS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW CONCERNING THE RESPECT FOR BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS, SINCE, ACCENTUATING THE LETHAL NATURE OF AN AUTARKIC WAY OF LIFE IN CONDITIONS OF INSUFFICIENT AND OFTEN UNTIMELY ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THEY PUT IN QUESTION THE POSSIBILITY OF EXERCISING A WHOLE RANGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL OR CULTURAL FIELD, WHICH ARE CONSIDERED TO BE A KIND OF ETHIC AND LEGAL STANDARDS, AND, BY EXTENSION, THE POSSIBILITY OF PRESERVING LIFE AND HEALTH AS FUNDAMENTAL VALUES.

SANCTIONS AND HEALTH

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE WORLD IS REALLY READY TO COLDLY IMPLEMENT MEASURES CAUSING A SLOW DEATH OF MILLIONS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE - THIS IS A HORRIBLE QUESTION ASKED BY THE POPULATION OF A COUNTRY CONDEMNED TO ISOLATION.

ACCORDING TO PROVISIONS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW, THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND HEALTH IS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT. THIS RIGHT IS ALSO GUARANTEED BY THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER AND THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION CONSTITUTION. THE DEFINITION OF HEALTH ACCEPTED BY THE WORLD IS THAT OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, ACCORDING TO WHICH HEALTH MEANS MATERIAL, SOCIAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING OF THE MAN. IT IS THEN NEEDLESS TO ASK WHETHER UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 757 AND 820 CONDEMNED TO A LOSS OF LIFE AND HEALTH CITIZENS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA, AND TOGETHER WITH THEM REFUGEES AND ALL OTHERS RECEIVING HEALTH PROTECTION IN ITS TERRITORY, SINCE THEY CAN RECEIVE IT NOWHERE ELSE IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA. AND TO WHAT ARE CONDEMNED SICK PEOPLE IN YUGOSLAVIA BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS?

IT IS A WELL KNOWN FACT THAT YUGOSLAV HEALTH SERVICE ALMOST ENTIRELY DEPENDS ON IMPORT. ABOUT 90% OF MEDICINES ARE PRODUCED EXCLUSIVELY ON THE BASIS OF FOREIGN LICENCES AND IMPORTED RAW MATERIALS OR HALF-MADE PRODUCTS. OTHER MEDICINES ARE IMPORTED AS READY-MADE PRODUCTS. OVER 95% OF SANITARY MATERIAL AND 90% OF MEDICAL MATERIAL ARE ALSO IMPORTED. ALMOST ENTIRE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT IS IMPORTED, AS WELL AS PARE PARTS. IN ORDER TO FUNCTION, YUGOSLAV HEALTH SERVICE NEEDS TO IMPORT EACH MONTH THOUSANDS OF VARIOUS MEDICAL PRODUCTS - DRUGS, NEEDLES, SYRINGES VARIOUS SURGICAL SUTURES, BANDAGES, REAGENTS, TUBES, CATHETERS, PACEMAKERS, BLOOD TESTS BLOOD BEGS, INFUSION SYSTEMS. IF ONE IS FAMILIAR WITH MEDICINE AND HEALTH, ONE KNOWS THAT FOR VARIOUS TYPES OF SURGERIES ALONE, A NUMBER OF ARTICLES SUCH AS TUBES, CATHETERS AND SIMILAR IS NEEDED.

THE SANCTIONS INTRODUCED IN LATE MAY 1992 IMPOSED A PROCEDURE ACCORDING TO WHICH EACH INDIVIDUAL FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER OF THESE ARTICLES REQUIRES APPROVAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SANCTIONS. IN ORDER TO OBTAIN APPROVAL, IT IS NECESSARY TO FIND A PARTNER WHO IS WILLING TO COOPERATE, AND THEN OBTAIN APPROVAL OF HIS GOVERNMENT. AND THIS IS NOT ENOUGH! THERE IS THE SECOND ROUND OF THE PROCESS WITH THE SAME PROCEDURE FOR CARRYING OUT FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS FOR THIS PURPOSE. AND FINALLY THE THIRD ROUND, I.E. OBTAINING APPROVALS FOR TRANSPORT OF PURCHASED GOODS.

DESPITE THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION MEMORANDUM ACCORDING TO WHICH FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS FOR HEALTH PRODUCTS MUST BE EXCLUDED FROM SANCTIONS, 50% OF REQUESTS FOR DEBLOCKING OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES IN FOREIGN BANKS HAS NOT BEEN MET SINCE SEPTEMBER 1992. MEMBER-COUNTRIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION THAT VOTED AT THE ASSEMBLIES OF THIS ORGANIZATION FOR THE TWO RESOLUTIONS UNDER WHICH HEALTH CANNOT BE SUBJECT TO SANCTIONS, EITHER FOR POLITICAL OR FOR ANY OTHER REASONS, ARE COMPETING IN MAKING PURCHASE AND TRANSPORT OF MEDICAL PRODUCTS FOR THE NEEDS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AS SLOW AS POSSIBLE, OR EVEN IMPOSSIBLE.

THE SITUATION IS FURTHER AGGRAVATED AND WORSENED BY THE PROCEDURE OF APPROVING THE IMPORT OF MEDICINE AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SINCE SOME COUNTRIES CREATE INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES WHICH ARE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF HUMANITY. AN ILLUSTRATION FOR THIS IS THE IMPORT OF THE MODERN GERMAN SCANNER FOR CHILDREN CANCER DETECTION WHICH HAS A SMALL NUMBER OF US-MADE PARTS. THE US GOVERNMENT INSISTED IN THE SANCTIONS COMMITTEE THAT APPLICATION FOR EACH SPARE PART, SOME OF VALUE OF ONLY SEVERAL HUNDRED DOLLARS, BE SUBMITTED WHICH PROLONGS THE WHOLE PROCEDURE TO SEVERAL MONTHS, ALTHOUGH IT IS THE EQUIPMENT FOR THE TREATMENT OF CHILDREN NOT FOR WAR.

ALTHOUGH THE HUMANITARIAN AID IN THIS FIELD IS EXEMPTED FROM THE SANCTIONS ITS DELIVERY TO THE FRY IS CONSIDERABLY OBSTRUCTED, COMPLICATED OR EVEN PREVENTED, ESPECIALLY IN CASES WHEN IT IS COMING FROM YUGOSLAV CITIZENS WORKING AND LIVING ABROAD AND IMMIGRANTS (DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING EXPORT LICENCES, APPROVALS BY TRANSIT COUNTRIES, RETURNING FROM THE BORDERS ALTHOUGH HAVING VALID DOCUMENTS AND NECESSARY APPROVALS, ETC). SO FAR, THE RECEIVED AID IS MODEST IN COMPARISON TO THE VOLUME AND QUALITY OF AID DELIVERED BY OTHER COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO CROATIA AND BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA. ALL THIS POINTS TO THE DISCRIMINATORY APPROACH AND DOUBLE STANDARDS IN THE BEHAVIOUR OF THE MAJORITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY VIS-A-VIS THE FRY AND THE ENTIRE SERB PEOPLE. FOR, HUMANITARIAN LAW DOES NOT CONDITION PROVISION AND DELIVERY OF AID BY THE BELONGING OF AN INDIVIDUAL, GROUP OR A NATION TO A PARTICULAR NATION, ETHNIC GROUP, RELIGION, RACE OR IDEOLOGY, THE BASIC CRITERIUM BEING THAT HEALTH AND BIOLOGICAL EXISTENCE ARE ENDANGERED.

THIS COUNTRY THAT UNTIL RECENTLY HAD A FIRST-CLASS MEDICINE AND HEALTH PROTECTION, HAS ABANDONED ALMOST ALL METHODS OF SOPHISTICATED SPECIALIST TREATMENT. BABIES WITH HEART DISEASES DIE SINCE SURGERY IS IMPOSSIBLE, OPERATING ROOMS FOR OPEN HEART SURGERIES WERE NOT HEATED DURING THE WINTER 1993, AND THERE ARE LONG LISTS OF PATIENTS WAITING FOR KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION. SOME OF THEM DIE, AND FOR OTHERS DEATH IS CLOSER AND CLOSER. EVEN IF THEY ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE OPERATED ON, IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT THEY ARE GOING TO LIVE, SINCE THEIR ILLNESS DETERIORATES DUE TO THE LONG DELAY. AND EVEN IF THEY SURVIVE THIS STAGE, STILL THERE IS NO HOPE FOR THEM, BECAUSE THERE ARE NO IMMUNO-SUPPRESSIVE MEDICINES TO PREVENT REJECTION OF THE TRANSPLANTED ORGAN. NEUROSURGEONS ARE CARRYING OUT THE MOST COMPLEX SURGERIES, E.G. BRAIN TUMOUR SURGERIES AND SIMILAR, WITHOUT X-RAY EQUIPMENT, THAT WOULD BETTER LOCATE THE TUMOUR, THUS IMPROVING THE CHANCE OF SURVIVAL. HOWEVER, IT IS NOT ONLY THIS HIGHEST LEVEL OF HEALTH PROTECTION THAT IS THE PROBLEM, NAMELY FOR SEVERAL MONTHS NOW IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO IMPLEMENT EVEN ROUTINE HEALTH PROTECTION. DUE TO THE LACK OF TRANQUILIZERS, PATIENTS WITH MENTAL DISORDERS ARE AGAIN TIED UP AND TREATED WITH ELECTRIC SHOCKS, ALTHOUGH THESE ARE NOT ONLY

ABANDONED, BUT ALSO BANNED METHODS. DEATH RATE OF THESE PATIENTS IS GOING UP ENORMOUSLY, AND INCREASINGLY OFTEN WHEN HAVING FITS OF AGGRESSION, THEY ATTACK DOCTORS AND OTHER MEDICAL STAFF, WHO HAVE NO MEANS TO CALM THEM DOWN.

CLINICS FOR CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ARE FULL OF PATIENTS WHOSE BLOOD HAS BEEN INFECTED SINCE IT HAS NOT BEEN TESTED TO HEPATITIS, WHILE SHELVES FOR DRUGS ARE EMPTY. PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM ALLERGY AND CANNOT BE TREATED WITH PENICILLIN, CANNOT RECEIVE ANY HELP AT ALL AT CLINICS, SINCE OTHER ANTIBIOTICS ARE AVAILABLE ONLY OCCASIONALLY, WHEN THEY ARRIVE AS PART OF HUMANITARIAN AID. PRIVATE PHARMACIES STILL HAVE MEDICINES, AND PATIENTS ARE BUYING ON THEIR OWN ANESTHETIC FOR SURGERY, NEEDLES, SUTURES, CYTOSTATICS. FOR ONE MEDICINE THEY GIVE THEIR ENTIRE MONTHLY SALARY, AND FOR LONGER TREATMENT THEY SELL ALL THEY HAVE.

THE FOLLOWING ARE ONLY SOME OF THE EFFECTS OF THE SANCTIONS SO FAR:

THE INSTITUTE OF ONCOLOGY IN BELGRADE DOES NOT HAVE EVEN THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL CYTOSTATICS. ALTHOUGH THREE MONTHS AGO US $ 500 000 WAS PAID TO IMPORT THESE MEDICINES, AND ALTHOUGH ALL NECESSARY APPROVALS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED, THE BANK IN LONDON HAS NOT RELEASED THESE RESOURCES. FOUR MONTHS AGO A PAYMENT WAS MADE TO THE SIEMENS'S ACCOUNT FOR SPARE PARTS FOR X-RAY EQUIPMENT. NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE SIEMENS YET.

AT CARDIOSURGICAL WARDS FOR CHILDREN IN SERBIA 41 BABIES HAVE DIED, SINCE DOCTORS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO CARRY OUT NECESSARY SURGERIES. DR. JADRAN MAGIC, A DOCTOR AT THE INSTITUTE OF THE MOTHER AND THE CHILD IN BELGRADE, WHO PROVIDED THIS INFORMATION, EXPLAINED HOW TRAGICAL IT WAS TO DECIDE WHICH BABY WAS TO BE OPERATED FIRST, AND WHICH ONE TO BE SENT TO DEATH. THESE BABIES HAD HEAVY HEART DISEASES. WHO WILL TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BABIES THAT ARE YET TO BE BORN, WHOSE DISEASES, CONSIDERED "MOST ORDINARY" BY THE REST OF THE WORLD, WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO TREAT, SINCE THERE WILL BE MEANS FOR THAT?

YUGOSLAV DOCTORS HAVE ALREADY PUBLICIZED PRELIMINARY SURVEYS WHICH DEMONSTRATE A VERY SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION OF THE HEALTH CONDITION OF THE POPULATION.

FOR MONTHS NOW THERE HAS BEEN A PERMANENT SHORTAGE IN THIS COUNTRY OF A WHOLE RANGE OF MEDICINES FOR BASIC HEALTH CARE. IN THE HOSPITALS AND PHARMACIES THERE ARE NO DRUGS FOR CARDIAC PATIENTS, NO DRUGS FOR MALIGNANT DISEASES, NO ANTIBIOTICS, NO TRANQUILIZERS AND ANTI DEPRESSANTS, NO DRUGS TO TREAT HYPERTENSION, NO DRUGS TO PREVENT THE REJECTION OF TRANSPLANTED ORGANS; SURGICAL HOSPITALS HAVE NO MEDICAL SUPPLIES, NO ANAESTHETICS, NO ANTI-SHOCK THERAPY DRUGS, NO MEDICAMENTS FOR INTENSIVE CARE. THE SEMI-ILLICIT PRIVATE MARKET, THE WARES OF WHICH ARE OF DOUBTFUL ORIGIN AND QUALITY IS THE ONLY SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR ILL PEOPLE FROM WHICH THEY CAN BUY, FOR INSTANCE, EVERYTHING THAT THEY NEED FOR AN OPERATION, FOR DOCTORS TO BE ABLE INDEED TO PERFORM ONE. NOT ONLY DO CHRONIC PATIENTS SPEND ALL OF THEIR EARNINGS OR PENSIONS TO BUY MEDICINES ON THIS MARKET, BUT THEY ARE FREQUENTLY FORCED TO SELL WHAT LITTLE THEY HAVE, ACQUIRED PAINSTAKINGLY, TO BE ABLE TO GET TREATMENT.

DUE TO THE LACK OF ANTI-TETANUS VACCINES IN A HOSPITAL IN LOZNICA (ON THE BORDER BETWEEN SERBIA AND BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA) A PATIENT CONTRACTED THIS GRAVE AND FATAL DISEASE. ANOTHER PATIENT HAD AN EPILEPSY SEIZURE FOR TWO DAYS, DUE TO THE LACK OF INTRAVENOUS ANTI-EPILEPTICS - SHE SURVIVED BUT WITH SEVERE IRREVERSIBLE DAMAGE TO HER CEREBRAL FUNCTIONS.

IN ONE OF DIALYSIS CENTRES OF THE FIFTEEN KIDNEY PATIENTS WHOLE DIALYSIS WAS REDUCED FROM THE NEEDED THREE TREATMENTS TO TWO WEEKLY, FOUR DIED IMMEDIATELY.

OVER ONLY A YEAR THE NUMBER OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS IN BELGRADE HAS INCREASED BY 68 CASES. AT THE EMERGENCY CENTRE IN BELGRADE, OVER LESS THAN A YEAR, THE MORTALITY OF INJURED PATIENTS WENT UP BY AS MUCH AS 20%, BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF MEDICINES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR THEIR TIMELY TREATMENT.

AT THE CARDIO-VASCULAR SURGERY CENTRE IN BELGRADE, IN 1991, 502 OPEN HEART SURGERIES WERE PERFORMED, AND ONLY 208 IN 1992. THE NUMBER OF KIDNEY TRANSPLANTS HAS BEEN REDUCED BY AS MUCH AS 50%, AND IN MEDICINE, PERCENTAGES OF EVEN 1 AND 2 PERCENT ARE SIGNIFICANT.

EPIDEMICS OF HEPATITIS, MEASLES, INTESTINAL AND OTHER INFECTIONS ARE ON THE RISE UNDER THE IMPACT OF RESOLUTION 820 OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION, DIFFICULT AS IT IS, WILL ONLY DETERIORATE FURTHER.

AS A RESPONSE TO ALL APPEALS OF YUGOSLAV DOCTORS AND OFFICIALS AND TO THE WHO RESOLUTIONS, THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE FOR SANCTIONS BANNED THE IMPORT OF RAW MATERIALS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF MEDICINES IN YUGOSLAVIA IN NOVEMBER 1992, SINCE IT ALLEGEDLY HAD INFORMATION THAT YUGOSLAV FACTORIES EXPORTED MEDICINES TO SLOVENIA. AFTER FIVE MONTHS OF CORRESPONDENCE, THE COMMITTEE INFORMED COMPETENT PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY THAT ONLY ONE SMALL PRIVATE COMPANY FORM BELGRADE CARRIED OUT EXPORT TRANSACTIONS FOR MEDICINES WITH SOME SIMILAR SLOVENIAN COMPANY FROM MARIBOR. NEEDLESS TO SAY, NOT EVEN AFTER THIS HAS THE BAN BEEN LIFTED. THIS IS DESPITE WHO RESOLUTIONS 41.31 AND 42.24, STATING THAT HEALTH INDUSTRY IS NOT SUBJECT TO SANCTIONS. YUGOSLAV DOCTORS, THEREFORE, TRIED TO RAISE THEIR VOICE AND TELL THE WORLD THAT SANCTIONS ARE SERIOUSLY ENDANGERING THE MOST INNOCENT - CHILDREN AND THE SICK. APPEALS WERE SENT TO THE WORLD PUBLIC. IN THE CONTEXT OF APRIL 7, THE WORLD HEALTH DAY, OUR COUNTRY REQUIRED THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION TO DEMAND LIFTING OF SANCTIONS IN HEALTH SECTOR IN THE UNITED NATIONS. DOCTORS HAVE ORGANIZED PEACEFUL PROTESTS IN FRONT OF THE AMERICAN, RUSSIAN, FRENCH AND GERMAN EMBASSIES IN BELGRADE.

AS A RESPONSE, IT HAPPENED THAT A NEW SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON A COMPLETE ISOLATION OF YUGOSLAVIA WAS ADOPTED. THE RESOLUTION CONTAINS A PROVISION THAT HUMANITARIAN AID AND MEDICINES ARE EXEMPTED FROM THE BAN ON IMPORT. ONE CAN BUT WONDER HOW "EXEMPTED" HEALTH SECTOR WILL BE UNDER RESOLUTION 820, WHEN UNDER THE MORE LENIENT RESOLUTION 757 IT WAS "EXEMPTED" IN SUCH A MANNER.

THE PEOPLE OF YUGOSLAVIA HAS BECOME A HOSTAGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROCESS OF SOLVING THE WAR CRISIS IN BOSNIA. ISOLATION PUT EMBARGO ON HUMANITY, VIOLATED THE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS, AND PEOPLE IN ONE EUROPEAN COUNTRY ARE FACING DEATH - OUT OF ANYONE'S SIGHT, WITHOUT A SINGLE OFFERED HAND. DOCTORS OF YUGOSLAVIA HAVE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE: "WE SHALL FIND A WAY TO SOONER OR LATER CHARGE AND CONDEMN THOSE WHO TOOK LIVES OF OUR PATIENTS OR DETERIORATED THEIR HEALTH".

POSITION AND PROBLEMS OF CHILDREN (REFUGEE CHILDREN INCLUDED) IN THE F.R.Y. AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE WAR IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER S.F.R.Y. AND OF THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST THE F.R.Y.

THE CHILDREN OF ALL PEOPLES AND OF ALL RACES ARE THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD, A CONFIRMATION OF LOVE, PATIENCE AND HOPE INVESTED IN THEM BY ADULTS, BUT CHILDREN ARE ALSO VERY OFTEN THE BEST PROOF THAT PRECISELY THEY ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE AND ARE MOST FREQUENTLY VICTIMS IN THE CONFLICT OF ADULTS.

THE WAR CONDITIONS IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA, IN PARTICULAR THE UNJUST AND HUMILIATING SANCTIONS IMPOSED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL, BROUGHT ABOUT A SPEEDY AND DRAMATIC AGGRAVATION OF THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE ENTIRE POPULATION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA, PARTICULARLY THAT OF CHILDREN, WITH A TENDENCY OF DAILY AND CONTINUAL AGGRAVATION.

INFLATION WHICH REACHES DAILY UP TO 4 PER CENT ACCELERATES THE DROP IN THE REAL STANDARD, WHILE THE RACE BETWEEN INCOME AND PRICES ON BASIC PRODUCTS INDISPENSABLE FOR EVERYDAY LIFE, WHICH ARE GROWING AT A VERTIGINOUS SPEED IN INCREASINGLY SHORTER TIME INTERVALS, IS MORE AND MORE TO THE DETRIMENT OF INCOME. THE QUANTITY OF PRODUCTS THAT CAN TO BOUGHT WITH THE REALIZED INCOME HAS FOR A LONG TIME BEEN BELOW THE EXISTENTIAL MINIMUM. THE NUMBER OF THE POOR WITHIN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF THE POPULATION IS GROWING PROGRESSIVELY. UNEMPLOYMENT IS ON THE INCREASE AND SANCTIONS HAVE LED TO THE SUSPENSION OF MORE AND MORE OF THE EMPLOYED FROM THE WORK PROCESS. THE ECONOMICALLY EXHAUSTED FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA IS SWAMPED BY CONTINUOUS WAVES OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES, MAINLY WOMEN, CHILDREN AND THE AGED, THE MAJORITY OF WHOM ARE ACCOMMODATED IN FAMILIES. INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AID UNFORTUNATELY DOES NOT MEET EVEN THE CRUDE REAL NEEDS OF THE REFUGEES, IN PARTICULAR NOT THE REHABILITATION NEEDS OF THE REFUGEE CHILDREN.

AS A RESULT OF SUCH ACQUIRED ACCUMULATED CONDITIONS THERE HAS BEEN AN AGGRAVATION IN THE POSITION OF CHILDREN TO SUCH A LEVEL AND SCOPE THAT IT REPRESENTS A FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AS GUARANTEED BY THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD.

1. THE SOCIAL CLIMATE IN WHICH THE CHILDREN ARE GROWING, DEFINED IN THE PREAMBLE OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AS A PRECONDITION FOR NORMAL GROWTH, INSTEAD OF HAPPINESS AND PEACE IS LADEN WITH FEAR, ANXIETY, ANIMOSITY, HATE, SORROW AND INSECURITY. THE WAR CONFLICTS AND ABRUPT AND DEEP SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES, THE INTERRUPTION OF COMMUNICATION WITH RELATIVES AND FRIENDS FROM OTHER REPUBLICS, THE GROWING NUMBER OF PRESSURES, THE SLOW PENETRATION OF TRUTH ON ONE'S OWN PEOPLE AND ON THE GENOCIDE CARRIED AGAINST IT, ALL LEAVE GRAVE MENTAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SCARS.

THESE CONDITIONS, WHICH ARE BECOMING CHRONIC AND ARE ACCUMULATING, INDIRECTLY AND DIRECTLY, INFLUENCE THE QUALITY OF FAMILY LIFE, NAMELY THE QUALITY OF THE EMOTIONAL, CONCEPTUAL, SOCIAL AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AND THE YOUTH IN GENERAL. EXPERTS PREDICT THAT THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH MILDER AND PASSING PSYCHIC DISTURBANCES BUT ALSO WITH MORE SERIOUS DISORDERS SHALL RISE AND SHALL HAVE FAR-REACHING NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES.

2. THE RIGHT OF THE CHILD TO ENJOY THE HIGHEST ATTAINABLE HEALTH, MEDICAL AND REHABILITATION CARE (ARTICLES 23 AND 24 OF THE CONVENTION) IS THREATENED. SANCTIONS BROUGHT ABOUT RAPID IMPOVERISHMENT AND BREAKDOWN OF THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. FOLLOWING THE NEEDS AND REQUESTS OF HEALTH INSTITUTIONS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN PROTECTION, INCLUDING THOSE OF A GREAT NUMBER OF FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS, OVER A PROTRACTED PERIOD, AN ALARMING DISRUPTION IN THE SUPPLY OF THE BASIC MEDICINE, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, DISINFECTANTS FOR PREVENTING INFECTIONS IN HOSPITALS, SHORTAGE OF BASIC BABYFOOD, FOOD FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES AND THE SPECIAL FOOD FOR BREAST-FEEDING MOTHERS, PREGNANT WOMEN AND POST-OPERATIVE WOMEN PATIENTS HAS BEEN APPARENT. THIS HAS ALREADY BROUGHT ABOUT ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE HEALTH OF THIS RISK GROUP: IRREGULAR CONTROL, DELAYED TREATMENT, REDUCED IMMUNITY, INCREASED NUMBER OF PREMATURE BORN INFANTS, HEALTH RISKS FOR NEWLY-BORN INFANTS, OCCURRENCE OF INFECTIONS IN HOSPITALS AT CHILDREN AND MATERNITY WARDS, EPIDEMICS IN CHILDREN INSTITUTIONS, REDUCED HOSPITALIZATION AND PROLONGED POST-OPERATIVE TREATMENT.

THE INCREASED NUMBER OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES AND OF DEATHS CAUSED BY THEM MAINLY AFFECTS PRE-SCHOOL AND SCHOOL CHILDREN WHILE THEIR REDUCED IMMUNITY AND INADEQUATE TREATMENT LEAD TO FURTHER HEALTH COMPLICATIONS. THUS, IN 1992, THERE WERE 302 CASES OF DEATH. THE MORTALITY RATE INCREASED BY 87.5 PER CENT COMPARED TO THE 1986-1990 AVERAGE AND BY 44.8 PER CENT IN CONTRAST TO 1991.

A SIMILAR SITUATION HAS BEEN REGISTERED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1993. DEATHS HAVE CONTINUED TO INCREASE, I.E. THE MORTALITY RATE DUE TO CONTAGIOUS DISEASES IS IN INCREASE. IN THE JANUARY-MARCH 1992 PERIOD, 15 CASES OF DEATH WERE REGISTERED WHILE IN THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993 THERE WERE 47 CASES, I.E. THREE TIMES MORE.

DATA ON REGISTERED EPIDEMICS IN 1992 ARE ALSO ILLUSTRATIVE. WHILE IN 1991 THERE WERE 188 REGISTERED CASES OF EPIDEMICS, WITH 3693 INFECTED PERSONS - 20 PERSONS PER ONE EPIDEMIC AT AVERAGE, IN 1992 THERE WERE 249 EPIDEMICS AFFECTING 9486 PERSONS - 38 INFECTED PERSONS PER EPIDEMIC AT AVERAGE. THE NUMBER OF EPIDEMICS INCREASED BY 32.4 PER CENT AND THE NUMBER OF THE INFECTED BY 1.5 TIMES.

/...

FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE WHOLE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN 1992, THE NUMBER OF CASES OF DYSENTERY WAS HIGHER 4.5 TIMES (3.127.701), OF MEASLES OVER 2 TIMES (2024:991).

THE NUMBER OF DEATHS (10) CAUSED BY MEASLES IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1993 IS EQUAL TO THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS CAUSED BY THIS DISEASE IN 1991 AND 1992.

IN THE REPUBLIC OF MONTENEGRO IN JULY AND AUGUST 1992, THE NUMBER OF CASES OF DYSENTERY AND ENTERIC-COLITIS AS A RESULT OF HYDROEPIDEMICS INCREASED AS WELL AS FOOD POISONING AND SOME BACTERIAL INFECTIONS.

IN THE TERRITORY OF KOSOVO AND METOHIJA WHERE THE HYGIENIC AND EPIDEMIC SITUATION IS THE WORST, THE CASES OF POLIO, MEASLES, SALMONELLA POISONING, HEPATITIS AND OTHER CONTAGIOUS DISEASES HAVE BEEN REGISTERED AS WELL AS THE INCREASED MORTALITY RATE. OUT OF THE TOTAL 306 CASES OF DEATH IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN 1992, 259 CASES OR 84 PER CENT WERE REGISTERED IN THIS TERRITORY; OUT OF 47 CASES OF DEATH IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1993, 34 CASES OR 72.3 PER CENT WERE REGISTERED IN KOSOVO AND METOHIJA. (IN 1992, 11 CHILDREN CONTRACTED POLIO AND ONE CHILD DIED.)

IN 1992, THE INCREASED NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN KOSOVO AND METOHIJA HAD DIARRHOEA DISEASES WHICH CAUSED DEATH OF A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF THEM DUE TO INADEQUATE THERAPY ("NELIT" AND "REHIDROMIKS" DRUGS ARE PRODUCED IN LJUBLJANA AND ZAGREB) AS WELL AS DUE TO UNTIMELY TREATMENT OF ALBANIAN CHILDREN IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS, LOW LEVEL OF HEALTH AND GENERAL EDUCATION OF PARENTS AND OF HYGIENIC AND EPIDEMIC CONDITIONS OF LIFE THERE. (ACCORDING TO REPORTS OF THE CHILDREN'S CLINIC OF THE PRIŠTINA MEDICAL SCHOOL, OUT OF 75 CHILDREN WHO DIED IN THIS INSTITUTION 48 OF THEM (64 PER CENT) DIED OF DIARRHOEA LAST AUGUST, WHILE 49 CHILDREN (75.8 PER CENT), OUT OF THE TOTAL 65 CHILDREN, DIED WITH THE SAME DIAGNOSIS LAST SEPTEMBER. THE INCREASED NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS AMONG CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS, WITH THE FACTORS ACCOUNTING FOR THE SPREAD OF TUBERCULOSIS, WILL MAKE TUBERCULOSIS BECOME AGAIN A GREAT SOCIAL AND MEDICAL PROBLEM IN YUGOSLAVIA (IN 1993 IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, NEW 4276 CASES WERE REGISTERED, 41 PER CENT).

THE COMPULSORY IMMUNIZATION OF CHILDREN IN THE ENVISAGED PERCENTAGE IS CARRIED OUT ONLY IN CENTRAL SERBIA AND VOJVODINA, WHILE IN MONTENEGRO AND PARTICULARLY IN KOSOVO AND METOHIJA IT IS FAR BELOW THE ENVISAGED PERCENTAGE OF SUCCESSFUL IMMUNIZATION. IN KOSOVO AND METOHIJA, THE SUCCESS OF IMMUNIZATION HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY UNSATISFACTORY EACH YEAR PRIMARILY AS A RESULT OF INAPPROPRIATE CHILDREN IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMME: ALMOST 20 PER CENT OF CHILDREN HAVE NOT BEEN COVERED SINCE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN EVEN REGISTERED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES' BIRTH REGISTERS. THE ALBANIAN SEPARATISTS ARE CONDUCTING A PROPAGANDA TO THE EFFECT THAT VACCINATION IS DETRIMENTAL (STERILITY) AND PARENTS REFUSE TO BRING THEIR CHILDREN FOR VACCINATION. IN ADDITION, THERE IS THE ECONOMIC SITUATION HAVING ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE ENTIRE COUNTRY. SUCH A DRAMATIC SITUATION HAS BEEN APPARENT IN THE LAST 2-3 YEARS IN PARTICULAR, CONTRIBUTING TO THE OVERALL DROP IN THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN (BY 10 PER CENT) COVERED BY IMMUNIZATION.

THE LATE 1992 AND EARLY 1993 REGISTERED THE INCREASED NUMBER OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY THE RHEUMATIC FEVER WITH SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES AND COMPLICATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN KOSMET AND IN THE DRINA RIVER BASIN WHERE THERE ARE A GREAT NUMBER OF REFUGEE CHILDREN. THIS IS THE RESULT OF UNTIMELY THERAPY OF STREPTOCOCCAL ANGINA DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF PENICILLIN AND EXTENCILLIN, OF VARIOUS PATHOGEN AGENTS AND OF POOR HYGIENIC LIVING CONDITIONS.

TREATMENT OF CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM CHRONICAL LUNG DISEASES, SERIOUS KIDNEY DISEASES, DIABETES AND MALIGNANT DISEASES WHICH LAST FOR MONTHS AND YEARS HAS BECOME A NIGHTMARE FOR DOCTORS AND A TRAGEDY FOR THEIR PARENTS DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF EXPENSIVE MEDICINE SUPPLIED FROM ABROAD. ANY ONE WHO SEES THE LOOK OF THE PARENTS WHOSE CHILD IS TREATED FOR ONE OF THE ABOVE DISEASES OR A BIRTH DEFECT WHICH REQUIRES A SURGERY ABROAD WILL FEEL ALL THE HUMAN DESPAIR AND MISERY.

THIS IS NOT THE PROBLEM OF AN INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY OR HEALTH SERVICE ALONE. IN SUCH A SHORT TIME, WE, AS A SOCIETY, LOST ALL THE ADVANTAGES OF OUR SOCIALIZED AND HUMANE MEDICINE SO MUCH ENVIED BY THE WORLD. THE CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM THE ABOVE DISEASES WERE PROVIDED TREATMENT FREE OF CHARGE (BOTH AS CHILDREN AND BECAUSE OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THEIR DISEASES); TODAY, DAILY DRUGS AND EXPENSIVE MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS COST A FORTUNE; CONSEQUENTLY, THE WORLD WHICH IMPOSED SANCTIONS MUST BE AWARE OF THEIR DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES.

DUE TO INADEQUATE CONDITIONS, HOSPITALIZATION PERIOD IS SHORTENED WHICH CAUSES MANY COMPLICATIONS. DURING THE THREE-DAY STAY IN THE MATERNITY WARD LACTATION DOES NOT BEGIN SINCE INFANTS DO NOT HAVE THEIR FIRST BREAST-FEED IN THE FIRST HOUR, WHICH RESULTS IN UNFAVOURABLE CONSEQUENCES, I.E. ARTIFICIAL FOOD IS USED WHICH IS DETRIMENTAL BOTH FOR INFANTS AND THEIR PARENTS. DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF MEDICINE, RISK PREGNANCIES ARE NOT ADEQUATELY TREATED. DUE TO COMPLEX DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPY PROCEDURES, TREATMENT OF STERILITY OF ONE OR BOTH PARTNERS IS UNSUCCESSFUL OR DISCONTINUED WHICH RESULTS IN THE FALL OF THE BIRTH RATE.

IF HEALTH IS NOT EXEMPTED FROM THE SANCTIONS, AS HAS BEEN THE CASE SO FAR, AND IN VIEW OF ALL ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE GRAVE ECONOMIC SITUATION, NEGATIVE FAR-REACHING CONSEQUENCES FOR THE HEALTH AND LIFE OF THIS MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION GROUP CAN BE CERTAINLY EXPECTED.

3. CHILD NUTRITION (ARTICLE 24 OF THE CONVENTION) IS THREATENED. DATA ON THE AVERAGE FOOD CONSUMPTION OF THE FEDERAL INSTITUTION FOR STATISTICS SHOW THAT THE PROBLEMS ARE NUMEROUS AND HETEROGENEOUS. THERE ARE DEFICIENCIES IN CALCIUM, IRON AND VITAMIN INTAKE PER AVERAGE DAILY MEAL IN SOME REGIONS A SURPLUS OF FATS AND INCREASED CEREALS CONSUMPTION HAS BEEN REGISTERED. THERE IS AN INSUFFICIENT INTAKE OF MEAT, MILK AND VEGETABLE FIBRES. SUCH CONDITIONS SHALL RESULT IN INCREASED ILLNESSES OF THE MORBIDITY AND MORBIFIC STRUCTURES RELATED TO INCREASED INTAKE OF FATS AND INSUFFICIENT INTAKE OF VEGETABLE FIBRES. SPECIALISTS IN NUTRITION WILL CERTAINLY STUDY THE CONSEQUENCES OF INADEQUATE NUTRITION FOR POSTERITY. TODAY, THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN OF ALL AGES, PREGNANT WOMEN AND BREAST-FEEDING MOTHERS IS INADEQUATE AND OF LOW QUALITY AT HOME, KINDERGARTEN, SCHOOL AND

HOSPITALS. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL INSTANCES OF ALARMING SHORTAGE OF SPECIAL FOOD FOR PREMATURE BORN INFANTS OR FOR PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM CERTAIN DISEASES.

4. THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION (ARTICLES 28 AND 29 OF THE CONVENTION) IS THREATENED PRIMARILY DUE TO THE DIFFICULT FINANCIAL SITUATION IN THIS FIELD, THE DENIAL OF RIGHT TO EDUCATIONAL AND EXPERT INFORMATION (ARTICLE 17 OF THE CONVENTION) AS WELL AS THE TOTAL INTERRUPTION OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON ISSUES RELATED TO EDUCATION.

CHILDREN OF ALBANIAN NATIONALITY IN THE AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF KOSOVO AND METOHIJA HAVE BEEN DENIED BY THE MEMBERS OF THEIR NATIONALITY, WHO LEAD A NATIONALISTIC AND SECESSIONIST POLICY, THE RIGHT TO ATTENDANCE OF REGULAR LEGALLY SET UP SCHOOLS. THERE IS NO OBJECTIVE NOR REAL CAUSE FOR SUCH AN ACTION SINCE EDUCATION IN THE MOTHER TONGUE HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR AND IS GUARANTEED BY THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA AND, JUST LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE, THE MEMBERS OF THE ALBANIAN NATIONALITY CAN PARTICIPATE ON ANY LEVEL IN THE DRAWING UP OF SCHOOL CURRICULA AS WELL AS IN OVERALL SCHOOL MANAGEMENT. THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION, AND THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION OF YOUTH OF THE ALBANIAN NATIONALITY, SHOULD BE PROTECTED FROM THREATS EMANATING FROM AN UNACCEPTABLE POLITIZATION CARRIED OUT BY NATIONALISTS AND SEPARATISTS IN THE RANKS OF THE ALBANIAN NATIONALITY.

5. THE RIGHT OF EVERY CHILD TO ENJOY SOCIAL CARE (ARTICLE 26, PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE CONVENTION) IS ENDANGERED DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS INDISPENSABLE FOR MAINTAINING THE ATTAINED LEVEL OF THIS CARE. THE POSITION OF INVALID CHILDREN HAS BEEN AGGRAVATED BOTH AS REGARDS SOCIAL CARE INSTITUTIONS AND THE PROVISION OF SPECIAL CARE AND ASSISTANCE.

6. INSTITUTIONS CHARGED WITH CARE FOR AND EDUCATION OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF CHILDREN BEING TAKEN OUT OF THE INSTITUTIONS BECAUSE THE PARENTS CANNOT COVER THE COSTS AND BECAUSE OF COMPULSORY LEAVE DUE TO THE IMPOSED SANCTIONS.

7. HYPERINFLATION COMPLETELY DEVALUES THE MEASURES PROVIDING FOR AND THE RIGHT TO VARIOUS ALLOWANCES (CHILD ALLOWANCE, MATERNITY LEAVE ALLOWANCE, ETC.) SO THAT THESE FORMS OF CHILD CARE DO NOT PROVIDE EVEN A MINIMUM OF PROTECTION TO THE MOST IMPOVERISHED FAMILIES.

8. THE RIGHT OF THE CHILD TO VACATION AND LEISURE TIME, PLAY AND RECREATION, AS WELL AS PARTICIPATION IN THE CULTURAL LIFE AND ART (ARTICLE 31 OF THE CONVENTION) IS THREATENED. ALTHOUGH PROCLAIMED AS A RIGHT OF THE CHILD AND AS A PRECONDITION FOR ITS HARMONIOUS DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION, IN CONDITIONS OF A DRASTIC FALL IN THE LIVING STANDARD AND THE TILL TODAY NEVER BEFORE EXPERIENCED ISOLATION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA, THESE NEEDS HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY REDUCED.

WITHOUT CLAIMING THAT THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THE LIFE OF ANY CHILD, HERE IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE DESCRIBED ISOLATION OF THE F.R.Y. AND ITS CHILDREN THAT WE FIND PARTICULARLY MORBID AND CRUEL. FOR 60 YEARS YUGOSLAV DAILIES AND CHILDREN'S MAGAZINES PUBLISHED STORIES OF WALT DISNEY HEROES (MICKEY MOUSE, CHIP AND DALE, DONALD DUCK, AND OTHERS). MANY OF US COMING FROM FORMER YUGOSLAVIA LEARNT OUR FIRST LETTERS OF THE ALPHABET TRYING TO FIND OUT WHAT MICKEY, MINI OR DONALD DUCK SAID. UNFORTUNATELY, WITHOUT ANY FEELING OF SOLIDARITY WITH ITS SMALL FRIENDS, WITHOUT WHOM WALT DISNEY WOULD HAVE NEVER BECOME SUCH A BIG AND RICH CORPORATION, THE LATTER DECIDED TO WITHDRAW ITS LICENCE AND EXPLICITLY FORBADE THE YUGOSLAV PAPERS TO PUBLISH ITS COMICS. OBVIOUSLY, FOR YUGOSLAV CHILDREN - NO MERCY.

9. THE LIVING STANDARD OF CHILDREN AS A WHOLE HAS BEEN THREATENED. NEITHER PARENTS NOR THE STATE ARE IN THE POSITION TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE LIVING CONDITIONS FOR THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SPIRITUAL, MORAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILD.

10. IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA, THE CHILD ENJOYS THE RIGHT TO ITS NAME, TO GUARDIANSHIP, TO CITIZENSHIP, TO SAFEGUARDING OF ITS IDENTITY, TO FAMILY TIES, TO FREEDOM OF OPINION, CONSCIOUSNESS AND RELIGION, TO PRIVACY, NATIONAL BELONGING, FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND FREEDOM TO DEMAND, TAKE AND OFFER INFORMATION, TO FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL GATHERING.

AS HAS ALREADY BEEN UNDERLINED, THE FATE OF THE CHILDREN IN THE F.R. OF YUGOSLAVIA IS SHARED BY THEIR SMALL FRIENDS - REFUGEES FROM OTHER FORMER REPUBLICS OF THE S.F.R.Y., PARTICULARLY THE 250,000 CHILD REFUGEES FROM CROATIA AND BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.

THE MAJORITY OF THE CHILDREN HAVE TAKEN REFUGE WITH THEIR MOTHERS, WHILE THEIR FATHERS AND OTHER MALE RELATIVES HAVE STAYED ON TO DEFEND THEIR HEARTHS. THIS SEPARATION WITHIN FAMILIES LEADS TO PSYCHO-PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT DISORDERS (CONCERN FOR PARENTS, ADAPTATION PROBLEMS IN A NEW ENVIRONMENT, LOSS OF CONTACT WITH CLOSE AND DEAR PERSONS, ETC.).

THE LATEST DATA AVAILABLE SHOW THAT THE NUMBER WITHOUT PARENTS REACHES UP TO 1,200. THESE CHILDREN HAVE FELT THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE HORRORS OF WAR EITHER DIRECTLY (DEVASTATION, SUFFERING, KILLING, MASSACRE) OR INDIRECTLY (EMOTIONAL STRESS, MEDIA PROPAGANDA, REFUGE, ETC.).

WAR PSYCHOSIS, INCERTITUDE AND CONTINUAL FEAR HAVE PARALYSED THE CHILDREN'S' DAILY ACTIVITIES, THEY CAUSE ANXIETY IN THE CHILDREN'S' SOULS, AND THE TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A CHILDHOOD ARE BEING MANIFESTED THROUGH VARIOUS FORMS OF THE CHILDREN'S' DISORGANIZATION. THE CHILDREN'S' EMOTIONAL, PSYCHIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL BALANCE HAS BEEN GRAVELY AFFECTED BY A LIFE IN SHELTERS, TENTS, CELLARS, THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF PLAYING IN SAFETY AND OF MOVING FREELY.

THE CHILDREN OF FORMER YUGOSLAVIA HAVE EXPERIENCED AS PARTICULARLY TRAUMATIC THE UPSET OF TILL THEN FRIENDLY, COMRADELY AND WARM RELATIONS WITH CHILDREN IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WHO, AS A RESULT OF THE ESCALATION OF THE WAR CONFLICT AND THE STRAINING OF INTERETHNIC RELATIONS, HAVE BECOME ENEMIES UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ANTAGONISTIC FEELINGS AMONG ADULTS. SUCH ABRUPT SHIFTS IN COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONS AT SCHOOL, IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, IN THE STREET, HAVE ALL DISRUPTED THE EMOTIONAL BALANCE OF THE CHILDREN AND HAVE INCITED FEELINGS INCOMPREHENSIBLE TO THE CHILDREN BUT NONETHELESS EVIDENT SUCH AS AGGRESSIVENESS AND INTOLERANCE TOWARD CHILDREN OF OTHER NATIONALITY. THE DEGREE OF

TOLERANCE HAS WEAKENED. LINKS WITH A SAFE, MATERIALLY AND EMOTIONALLY STABLE LIFE HAVE BEEN SEVERED AND HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY CONSTANT FEAR.

OUT OF ABOUT 250,000 CHILDREN, AROUND 140,000 ARE SCHOOL-GOING CHILDREN AGED 7 TO 18, WHICH MEANS THAT BESIDE THE ABOVE MENTIONED PROBLEMS THESE CHILDREN ARE ALSO FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF GETTING USED TO NEW CURRICULA. ALTHOUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE CHILDREN IS ONE YEAR BEHIND WITH SCHOOL DUE TO THE WAR, THE F.R. OF YUGOSLAVIA HAS DONE ITS UTMOST TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT EVERY CHILD HAS BEEN ENROLED. THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN ACCOMMODATED, ENROLED AT SCHOOL, PROVIDED WITH INDISPENSABLE SCHOOL KITS AND TEXTBOOKS, BUT NOT ALL THE NEEDS HAVE BEEN MET. IT DOES NOT EVEN MEET THE MINIMUM OF NEEDS OF REFUGEE CHILDREN SINCE THEIR INFLOW FROM WAR RAVAGED AREAS IS CONTINUAL. AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST BEAR IN MIND, THAT 96.9 PER CENT OF THE REFUGEES HAVE BEEN ACCOMMODATED IN FAMILIES. SINCE THE INHABITANTS OF YUGOSLAVIA HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO THE BRINK OF EXISTENCE AS A RESULT OF THE SANCTIONS IMPOSED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THEY ARE MORE AND MORE OBLIGED TO DENY HOSPITALITY TO THE REFUGEES.

A PARTICULARLY THREATENED CATEGORY ARE PUPILS AND STUDENTS. THE TEENAGERS GROUP OF 14 TO 18 YEAR OLDS ARE A PARTICULARLY SYMPTOMATIC GROUP. THE MOST FREQUENT DISORDERS REGISTERED IN THIS GROUP ARE OF A PSYCHIC ORDER, ON THE ONE HAND, SEVER STATES OF DEPRESSION USUALLY ACCOMPANIED BY SUICIDAL ATTEMPTS, DESPERATION, LOSS OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE ENVIRONMENT, AND ON THE OTHER, GREATER AGGRESSIVENESS, JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE AND PROSTITUTION.

AN APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE IN SOLVING THE SAID PROBLEMS HAS BEEN SENT OUT TO ALL INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS. UNFORTUNATELY, THAT WHICH HAS BEEN OFFERED IS FAR FROM SUFFICIENT. THE BIGGEST PROBLEM IS HOW TO HAVE CHILDREN EXEMPTED FROM THE SANCTIONS. AS IF BEING DRIVEN AWAY FROM THEIR HOMES WERE NOT A TERRIBLE ENOUGH PUNISHMENT, THEY ARE BEING DEPRIVED OF THE RIGHT TO HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE, SOCIAL CARE, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL LIFE AND ART, IN GAMES AND RECREATION. CONDITIONS THAT WOULD ADEQUATELY MEET THE NEEDS OF A CHILD'S PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SPIRITUAL, MORAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DO NOT EXIST.

THEREFORE, THE CHILDREN OF THE F.R. OF YUGOSLAVIA ASK THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE STATES SIGNATORIES OF THE DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AND THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, HOW LONG WILL THE LATTER GO ON VIOLATING THESE DOCUMENTS, ARE ALL CHILDREN NOT EQUAL, EQUALLY INNOCENT, DOES THE BASIC MOTTO OF THE DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD: "HUMANITY OWES TO THE CHILD THE BEST IT CAN OFFER IT," NOT COUNT ANY MORE?

ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE SANCTIONS IMPOSED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 757 IN RESPECT OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL COOPERATION

THE SANCTIONS ON CULTURAL COOPERATION MOST DIRECTLY CONTRAVENE THE PROCLAMATIONS RELATING TO THE FREE FLOW OF PEOPLE AND IDEAS AND THEREFORE MERIT PARTICULAR ATTENTION.

THE STEPS UNDERTAKEN BY A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TO IMPLEMENT THESE SANCTIONS ARE LEGALLY CHALLENGEABLE IN LARGE MEASURE AND ARE A SPECIFIC MANIFESTATION OF AGGRESSION (SINCE, FOR EXAMPLE, SUBPARA 7(C) OF RESOLUTION 757 MAKES NO REFERENCES TO THE SUSPENSION OF EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION, THOUGH IT IS THE FIELD IN WHICH ALMOST ALL COUNTRIES HAVE CEASED TO COOPERATE WITH YUGOSLAVIA), IN PARTICULAR:

A) WE HAVE NO ACCESS TO PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS IN THE CULTURAL FIELD, AS A RESULT OF WHICH WE ARE BEHIND THE LATEST TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA;

B) IT HAS BECOME IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO ADJUST TO THE RAPID SOCIAL CHANGES TAKING PLACE IN THE WORLD.

C) WE HAVE BEEN ISOLATED FROM THE PROCESSES OF INTEGRATION, IN EUROPE;

D) WE HAVE BEEN BARRED FROM THE MAJOR EC PROGRAMMES OF GROWING IMPORTANCE ESPECIALLY IN 1993, AT A TIME WHEN CONDITIONS ARE IN PLACE TO ENSURE UTMOST MOBILITY OF YOUTH IN EUROPE;

E) OUR REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN DENIED POSSIBILITY TO ATTEND CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, WORKSHOPS AND OTHER EXPERT MEETINGS ORGANIZED IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION; AND

F) THE VALUE SYSTEM IN OUR CULTURE AND SPIRITUAL SPHERE HAS SHIFTED.

THE SANCTIONS HAVE HAD BOTH BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL EFFECT.

OUR COOPERATION WITH WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WAS "FROZEN" AS EARLY AS THE SPRING OF 1991. EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, ALTHOUGH NOT OFFICIALLY NOTIFYING OF THEIR INTENTION TO SEVER CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL TIES, HAVE FROZEN THE SITUATION AS IT WAS BEFORE.

ALSO, WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION, THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN HAVE SUSPENDED COOPERATION SINCE THE TIME OF THE WAR IN CROATIA. THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE (THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAMME) HAS CEASED TO EXIST AND ORGANIZED TRAINING OF YUGOSLAV EXPERTS IN THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN PREVENTED. BY THE DECISION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, THE CULTURAL AND PRESS CENTRE OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN NEW YORK WAS CLOSED DOWN AND ITS PERSONNEL EXPELLED.

OUR COOPERATION WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAS ALMOST COME TO A COMPLETE STOP, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SOME CONTACTS WITH CHINA, INDIA AND THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME INITIATIVES BY CUBA, ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL. OUR COOPERATION WITH ARAB COUNTRIES HAS ALSO BEEN SUSPENDED. NONE OF THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAS INDICATED TERMINATION OF COOPERATION, BUT IT IS IN A STATE OF ABSOLUTE STAGNATION.

MULTILATERAL COOPERATION HAS ALSO BEEN CUT, AS A RESULT OF WHICH THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE SUSPENDED COOPERATION WITH OUR COUNTRY IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE, EDUCATION AND SPORTS ON 8 OCTOBER 1991. THE TERMINATION OF THIS COOPERATION HAS STALLED AND BLOCKED THE ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION OF YUGOSLAV REPRESENTATIVES IN THE WORK, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND ITS WORKING BODIES.

THE TRAINING OF OUR TEACHERS THROUGH SEMINARS SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR THEM HAS ALSO BEEN HALTED, AS WELL AS THEIR PARTICIPATION IN MORE THAN
20 CURRENT PROJECTS, IN WHICH OVER 100 YUGOSLAV EXPERTS PARTICIPATED BEFORE THE COOPERATION STOPPED.

WE HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED OF THE BENEFITS AND THE RIGHTS EMANATING FROM YUGOSLAVIA'S ACCESSION TO THE CONVENTIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, SUCH AS THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON EQUIVALENCE OF DIPLOMAS (ON THE BASIS OF WHICH YUGOSLAV GRADUATES COULD ENROL IN UNIVERSITIES IN COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEMBER COUNTRIES), THE ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION OF EQUIVALENCE OF DIPLOMAS, THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON THE RECOGNITION OF THE DURATION OF UNIVERSITY STUDIES, THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON THE ACADEMIC RECOGNITION OF UNIVERSITY QUALIFICATIONS, THE EUROPEAN CULTURAL CONVENTION, ETC.

AS A RESULT OF THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS, THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA HAS BEEN EXPELLED FROM THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN INITIATIVE, BALKAN COOPERATION AND THE DANUBE RIVER COOPERATION (IT HAS BEEN TWO YEARS NOW THAT THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IS NOT BEING INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE PROJECTS AND ACTIONS OF THESE INTEGRATIONS), AS WELL AS FROM AUDIO VISUAL EUREKA PROJECTS (YUGOSLAVIA HAS BEEN DEPRIVED ACCESS TO MODERN TECHNOLOGY AND PROJECTS IN THE AUDIOVISUAL SPHERE).

SINCE YUGOSLAVIA HAS CONCLUDED 14 BILATERAL AND 7 MULTILATERAL CONVENTIONS ON THE RECOGNITION OF DIPLOMAS AND SCHOOL CERTIFICATES, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE DOCUMENTS HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY IMPEDED AND, IN SOME CASES, COMPLETELY DISCONTINUED, BECAUSE OF WHICH ALL HOLDERS OF THE DIPLOMAS AND QUALIFICATIONS OBTAINED IN YUGOSLAVIA EMPLOYED OR ATTENDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES ABROAD, ARE BEING DISCRIMINATED AGAINST.

THE SYSTEM OF DISPATCHING SERBIAN LANGUAGE LECTURERS ABROAD WHICH EXISTED FOR YEARS AND ENCOMPASSED 65 UNIVERSITIES IN 23 COUNTRIES HAS BEEN DISRUPTED. DISRUPTIONS ARE ALSO EVIDENT IN THE TUITION AT MANY YUGOSLAV UNIVERSITIES AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS SINCE LECTURES HAVE BECOME IMPOSSIBLE TO ORGANIZE AT CERTAIN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENTS (CHINESE, JAPANESE) WHERE MORE THAN 20 FOREIGN LANGUAGES ARE TAUGHT.

ACCORDING TO THE 1992/93 ACADEMIC YEAR PROPOSAL, 34 SERBIAN LANGUAGE LECTURERS HAVE BEEN PROPOSED TO FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES BUT NONE OF THEM HAS BEEN ACCEPTED.

SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED ON RECIPROCITY BASIS WITHIN THE PROGRAMME OF CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION ARE BEING INCREASINGLY DISRUPTED, BECAUSE OF WHICH AT LEAST 250 YUGOSLAV EXPERTS HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPECIALIZE ABROAD; (MOST OF THE CANDIDATES SPECIALIZING ABROAD IN 1991/92 COMPLETED THEIR COURSES IN JUNE 1992 AND SINCE THAT TIME NO NEW SCHOLARSHIPS HAVE BEEN GRANTED);

OVER 650 YUGOSLAV TEACHERS AND OTHER EXPERTS HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND SUMMER COURSES ABROAD;

EXPORT OF TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER BOOKS FOR THE SERBIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOLS ATTENDED BY FRY CITIZENS IN THE FR OF GERMANY HAS BEEN PROHIBITED, NOR IS IT POSSIBLE TO PAY THE DISTRIBUTER IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA FOR THE BOOKS ALREADY DISTRIBUTED. YUGOSLAV STUDENTS ATTENDING COMPLEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THEIR MOTHER TONGUE ARE THEREBY PREVENTED FROM LEARNING THEIR OWN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE, ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO PROVISION IN RESOLUTION 757 ACCORDING TO WHICH UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS APPLY TO YUGOSLAV CITIZENS LIVING OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA.

A FAR MORE SERIOUS PROBLEM IS THE WITHHOLDING OF SUBSIDIES TO LANGUAGE COMPLEMENTARY SCHOOLS AS HAS BEEN DONE, FOR INSTANCE, BY THE AUTHORITIES OF BADEN-WUERTENBERG, JUSTIFYING ITS DECISION BY RESOLUTION 757.

THIS HAS AFFECTED THE EDUCATION OF ABOUT 2600 YUGOSLAV STUDENTS, I.E. THE ENTIRE TUITION COSTS WOULD HAVE TO BE BORNE BY THEIR PARENTS AND THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, UNLIKE OTHER FOREIGN STUDENTS (TURKS, GREEKS, PORTUGUESE, SPANIARDS, EVEN STUDENTS FROM OTHER FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLICS). INTERCESSION BY THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN STUTTGART AND BY THE OFFICIAL YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES HAS BEEN TO NO AVAIL.

CONCLUSION OF PERIODICAL PROGRAMMES OF CULTURAL COOPERATION WITH OVER 50 COUNTRIES HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED, WHICH RESULTED IN IMPROVISATIONS, FAILURES TO FULFIL COMMITMENTS, LACK OF INFORMATION, NON-REALIZATION OF JOINT ACTIONS, DOMINATION OF PARTIAL OR INDIVIDUAL INTERESTS, INADEQUATE QUALITY OF PROGRAMMES, ETC.

JOINT ACTION IN THE PRESENTATION OF YUGOSLAV ART AND CULTURE IN THE WORLD HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED, YUGOSLAVIA IS DENIED PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIRS (EIGHT PER YEAR), MUSICAL AND THEATRE FESTIVALS AND MANIFESTATIONS (35 PER YEAR), ART EXHIBITIONS AND WORKSHOPS (10 PER YEAR), FILM FESTIVALS AND YUGOSLAV FILM DAYS (30 PER YEAR), CONFERENCES, ROUND TABLES, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS (APP. 150 PER YEAR).

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF INDIVIDUALS, PERFORMING AT THEIR OWN RISK, FOREIGN SOLOISTS, ENSEMBLES, ARTISTS AND OTHER CULTURAL PERFORMERS ARE FORBIDDEN TO PARTICIPATE IN CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA.

PUBLISHING, PRINTING, BOOKSHOPS, LITERARY TRANSLATION AND LIBRARIES ARE IN AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT SITUATION, BECAUSE COPYRIGHT ON BOOKS BY FOREIGN AUTHORS HAS BECOME DIFFICULT AND OFTEN IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN. IMPORT OF INTERMEDIARIES FOR PAPER INDUSTRY AND OTHER SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THE PRINTING OF BOOKS HAVE ALSO BEEN SUSPENDED.

AFFECTED ARE ALSO TRADITIONAL YUGOSLAV LITERARY EVENTS SUCH AS THE OCTOBER WRITER MEETING, MEETING OF TRANSLATORS, INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR AND TRANSLATOR'S WORKSHOP, AS WELL AS THE PARTICIPATION OF YUGOSLAV PUBLISHING HOUSES, WRITERS, TRANSLATORS, LITERARY CRITICS AND THEORETICIANS AT INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES, MEETINGS AND BOOK FAIRS. SOME ORGANIZATIONS ABROAD REFUSE TO PUBLISH CONTRIBUTIONS OF YUGOSLAV SCHOLARS AND SCIENTISTS EVEN IN CASES WHEN CONGRESSES OR MEETINGS WERE HELD BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS IMPOSED SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA.

FINE ARTS, THEATRE AND MUSIC ARE IN THE SAME POSITION. YUGOSLAV ARTISTS ARE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS AND FESTIVALS ONLY AS INDIVIDUALS, AND NOT AS REPRESENTATIVES OF INSTITUTIONS OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA. IN 1992 NO FOREIGN ARTIST PARTICIPATED IN WELL-KNOWN INTERNATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVALS SUCH AS BITEF OR "STERIJINO POZORJE". THE PARTICIPATION OF ARTISTS FROM ABROAD AT THE BEMUS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OF YOUNG MUSICIANS WAS SYMBOLIC. THE CHARACTER AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE TRADITIONALLY OPEN INTERNATIONAL MANIFESTATIONS HAVE GRADUALLY VANISHED AGAINST THE WILL OF THEIR ORGANIZERS AND ART DIRECTORS.

FILM PRODUCTION WHICH IS VERY MUCH DEPENDENT ON IMPORTED MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT, HAS ALSO BEEN AFFECTED BY THE SANCTIONS: THERE IS A BAN ON THE IMPORT OF TAPES, AS WELL AS ALMOST ALL MEANS AND MATERIALS USED IN THE MAKING OF A FILM IN SHOOTING, DEVELOPING, EDITING AND SOUND RECORDING. FOREIGN PRODUCERS REFUSE TO CONTRACT YUGOSLAV FILM PRODUCING COMPANIES AND USE THEIR TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES. FEST, THE MAIN INTERNATIONAL YUGOSLAV FILM FESTIVAL, WAS NOT HELD THIS YEAR. IMPORT AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOREIGN FILMS HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY SANCTIONS.

ALTHOUGH THE SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FRY DO NOT EXPLICTLY INCLUDE THE FIELD OF INFORMATION, NORMAL FLOW OF INFORMATION BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES HAS BEEN BLOCKED IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT ENSHRINED IN THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AND THE CSCE DOCUMENTS.

THE SANCTIONS FROZE ALL NECESSARY COOPERATION IN ALL FIELDS OF INFORMATION. YUGOSLAVIA IS NO LONGER A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION.

COOPERATION HAS BEEN COMPLETELY HALTED IN THE FIELD OF AUDIO-VISUAL MEDIA. THE EXCHANGE WITH THE YUGOSLAV RADIO AND TELEVISION IS COMPLETELY BLOCKED. THE YUGOSLAV RADIO AND TELEVISION WAS EXCLUDED FROM THE EUROPEAN RADIO DIFFUSION UNION ON 1 JANUARY 1993. FOREIGN PROGRAMMES ARE NEITHER IMPORTED NOR EXCHANGED, INCLUDING SPORT EVENTS. EVEN LONG-TERM INTERNATIONAL CO-PRODUCTIONS LIKE THE EUROPEAN CULTURAL MAGAZINE "ALICE" HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED.

/...

THE IMPORT BAN ON SPARE PARTS AND INTERMEDIARIES FOR TV PRODUCTION THREATENS FURTHER PROGRAMME PRODUCTION. RECENTLY ESTABLISHED RADIO STATIONS AND TV CHANNELS ARE IN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT SITUATIONS.

YUGOSLAV PUBLICATIONS AND DAILIES AND MAGAZINES ARE DENIED ACCESS TO FOREIGN MARKETS WHEREBY THE FRY CANNOT, IN THE SITUATION OF PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST IT, PRESENT ITS ARGUMENTS TO THE CONTRARY. INFORMING OF, AND COMMUNICATION WITH, OUR MIGRANT WORKERS AND IMMIGRANTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES IS VERY DIFFICULT AND ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE.

IN JUNE 1992 UNESCO SUSPENDED, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITH YUGOSLAVIA. SUBSEQUENTLY, THIS SUSPENSION WAS EXTENDED ALSO TO THE PARTICIPATION OF OUR REPRESENTATIVE IN THE WORK OF THE UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATICS PROGRAMMES.

SINCE IT SUSPENDED YUGOSLAVIA, UNESCO HAS INITIATED OR ORGANIZED A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS FROM WHICH YUGOSLAVIA HAS BEEN EXCLUDED. THIS EXCLUSION IS BEST ILLUSTRATED BY THE UNESCO 1992-1993 PROJECT PROGRAMME. OUT OF 39 PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR THE REGULAR PROGRAMME AND 15 PROPOSALS FOR THE PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME, NO PROJECT HAS BEEN REALIZED, WHEREBY SUBMISSION OF NEW PROJECTS HAS BEEN PUT IN QUESTION.

THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS IN CULTURE AND EDUCATION - A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE EFFECTS OF WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN IN THIS PAPER - CAN HARDLY BE JUSTIFIED BY ANY REASON WHICH THE SECURITY COUNCIL OFFERED TO THE WORLD COMMUNITY WHEN IT DECIDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 757. IT IS IN OUTRIGHT CONTRAVENTION OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH IN ITS ARTICLE 27 PROVIDES THAT EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT "FREELY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CULTURAL LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY, TO ENJOY THE ARTS AND TO SHARE IN SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENT AND ITS BENEFITS" AS WELL AS OF ARTICLE 19 OF THE COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS PROVIDING FOR THE RIGHT OF A PERSON TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION. PRECISELY IN VIEW OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY AND ITS ORGANIZATION, THE IMPOSED SANCTIONS AND ITS LONG-TERM AND UNFORESEEABLE CONSEQUENCES ARE A WAY TO PUNISH ONE WHOLE NATION WHICH CAN HARDLY BE JUSTIFIED. COOPERATION MECHANISMS IN THE FIELD OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE MAINTAINED OVER YEARS AND THE PROCESS OF INTEGRATION OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN INTERNATIONAL TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS HAVE BEEN INTERRUPTED AND RID OF ANY GENUINE PROSPECTS BY THE SANCTIONS IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION.

ISOLATION OF A COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE FROM INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION, DENIAL OF THEIR RIGHT TO INFORMATION ABOUT CURRENT TRENDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT, DENIAL OF THEIR RIGHT TO EDUCATION AND TO RECEIVE AND GIVE INFORMATION - WHICH SEEM TO HAVE BEEN THE MAIN PURPOSES OF THE SANCTIONS - CONSTITUTE DANGEROUS PRECEDENTS WHICH BRING INTO QUESTION THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF CIVILIZATION AND HUMANITY WHICH ARE NOT ONLY EMPHASIZED BUT ALSO MANIPULATED TODAY.

APPENDIX

Letter dated 8 January 1993 from the Walt Disney Company to MIP Politika

I REFER TO THE LICENSE AGREEMENT DATED AS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1987 BETWEEN THE WALT DISNEY COMPANY AND MIP POLITIKA ("POLITIKA") WITH RESPECT TO THE PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN MAGAZINES IN YUGOSLAVIA (THE "AGREEMENT").

AS YOU MAY BE AWARE, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE UNITED NATIONS HAVE ALL RECENTLY ENACTED EMBARGOES WITH RESPECT TO THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE FORMER SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA. EACH SUCH EMBARGO IMPOSES PENALTIES ON ANY COMPANY WHICH CONTINUES TO DO BUSINESS IN SUCH REGION AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERMENT EMBARGO PROVIDES FOR VERY SERIOUS PENALTIES FOR UNITED STATES COMPANIES WHICH DO NOT ABIDE BY SUCH EMBARGO. THE WALT DISNEY COMPANY IS AFFECTED BY ALL OF SUCH EMBARGOES.

ACCORDINGLY, POLITIKA IS HEREBY INSTRUCTED TO IMMEDIATELY TERMINATE ALL ACTIVITIES UNDER THE AGREEMENT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. PLEASE IMMEDIATELY CONFIRM TO THIS OFFICE THAT POLITIKA WILL COMPLY WITH SUCH INSTRUCTION.

(Signed) Paul BEZILLA
Counsel

SANCTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL AND MINORITY RIGHTS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

ONE OF THE BASIC RIGHTS GUARANTEED BY ALL INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS IS THE RIGHT TO EQUALITY OF ALL PEOPLE REGARDLESS OF THEIR NATIONAL ORIGIN. HISTORICAL INTERMIXTURE AND INTERDEPENDENCE OF PEOPLES IS REFLECTED IN THE INCORPORATION OF THIS DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLE IN NATIONAL LEGISLATIONS OF ALL COUNTRIES THAT ASPIRE TO BE DEMOCRATIC. A SPECIAL ASPECT OF THIS EQUALITY IS THE RELATION TOWARDS MEMBERS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES, I.E. INDIVIDUALS BELONGING TO NATIONAL, ETHNIC, LANGUAGE AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR NUMBER.

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA IS AMONG THE FEW COUNTRIES WITH ABOUT 20 DIFFERENT NATIONAL GROUPS, ACCOUNTING FOR ABOUT 23 PER CENT OF THE COUNTRY'S TOTAL POPULATION. SOME MINORITY GROUPS (ALBANIANS) ACCOUNT FOR AS MUCH AS 16 PER CENT OF THAT POPULATION. CONSEQUENTLY, AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE, YUGOSLAVIA HAS ALWAYS DEVOTED SPECIAL ATTENTION TO ITS ADEQUATE REGULATION. IN ITS INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY IN THIS FIELD, YUGOSLAVIA WAS ONE OF THE INITIATORS AND MOST ACTIVE MEMBERS OF APPROPRIATE UN BODIES WHICH FOR YEARS WORKED ON AND ADOPTED ONLY IN 1992 THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL OR ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS OR LANGUAGE MINORITIES. HOWEVER, THE EXISTING UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS HAVE COMPOUNDED YUGOSLAVIA'S PROBLEMS IN ENSURING THE GUARANTEE, EXERCISE AND PROTECTION OF THE MINORITY RIGHTS. THEY CREATE A PRETEXT FOR MINORITY MEMBERS TO BLAME THE GOVERNMENT FOR ALLEGEDLY DENYING THEM THEIR RIGHTS RATHER THAN THE OVERALL SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY IN WHICH EVEN THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND HEALTH, THE BASIC HUMAN RIGHT, IS THREATENED.

HOWEVER, IT IS QUITE OBVIOUS THAT IN THE CONDITIONS OF SANCTIONS IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO ENSURE TO CITIZENS, NATIONALS OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, NOT ONLY THE ACHIEVED LEVEL OF THE STANDARD OF LIVING THEY HAD BEFORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SANCTIONS, BUT THAT IT IS ALSO ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP ITS PLUMMETING DECLINE. THESE DEVELOPMENTS, COMPOUNDED BY A RAPID DETERIORATION OF THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY WHICH HAD JUST BEGUN TO ENJOY THE FIRST FRUITS OF OWNERSHIP TRANSFORMATION, CANNOT BUT PROVOKE SOCIAL UNREST AND, IN A MULTI-NATIONAL STATE, AS THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, FURTHER COMPLICATE INTER-ETHNIC RELATIONS. AND WHILE IN ETHNICALLY HOMOGENEOUS SOCIETIES SUCH DEVELOPMENTS BRING ABOUT SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, IN A MULTI-ETHNIC ENVIRONMENT THEY MAY EASILY PUTREFY INTO NATIONAL AND ETHNIC DISCRIMINATION AND SERVE AS A PRETEXT FOR ALLEGATIONS THAT MINORITY RIGHTS ARE THREATENED AND DENIED, ILLUSTRATIVE OF THIS SITUATION ARE THE COMPLAINTS OF A NUMBER OF MINORITY GROUPS (HUNGARIANS, ROMANIANS, SLOVAKS) THAT THEIR RIGHT TO BE INFORMED IN THEIR MOTHER TONGUE IS THREATENED SINCE THE GOVERNMENT ALLEGEDLY DENIES THIS RIGHT TO THIS SECTION OF ITS CITIZENS. HOWEVER, THE TRUTH IS QUITE DIFFERENT: THERE IS AN OVERWHELMING SHORTAGE OF NEWSPRINT AFFECTING EQUALLY ALL NEWS AGENCIES IN THE CONDITIONS OF THE BLOCKADE. SIMILAR REACTION AND STRONG OPPOSITION WERE RENDERED TO THE DECISION TO REDUCE THE PROGRAMME ON TV SERBIA IN MINORITY LANGUAGES. THE SITUATION WAS OVERCOME BY THE SO-CALLED POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION WHEREBY MINORITY LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES WERE SAVED FROM CUTS WHICH OTHERWISE WERE MADE IN THE ENTIRE RADIO AND TELEVISION OF SERBIA.

YUGOSLAVIA, AND ITS CONSTITUENT STATES OF SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO, ARE THE STATES OF ALL ITS CITIZENS, UNLIKE SOME FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLICS WHICH, ACCORDING TO THEIR CONSTITUTIONS, ARE NATIONAL STATES. IT IS NO EXAGGERATION TO AVER THAT, BEFORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SANCTIONS AND IN PARTICULAR BEFORE THEIR EFFECTS BEGAN TO BE FELT, MINORITIES IN YUGOSLAVIA ENJOYED THE RIGHTS GUARANTEED BOTH IN LEGAL NORM AND IN PRACTICE DUE TO THE POLICY OF POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION, IN CONTRAST TO SOME OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH ALSO HAVE NATIONAL MINORITIES. THUS, FOR EXAMPLE, ACCORDING TO 1991 EBU STATISTICS, VOL. 1.3, SUMMARY OF RADIO AND TV PROGRAMMES FOR SPECIAL GROUPS, SURVEYING 40 RADIO AND TELEVISION ORGANIZATIONS

FROM 26 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING FORMER YUGOSLAVIA WITH ALL ITS REPUBLICAN RADIO AND TELEVISION. CENTRES, THE RTV NOVI SAD HAD THE GREATEST NUMBER OF ANNUAL PROGRAMMES FOR MINORITY GROUPS WITH 14.783 RADIO AND 1147 TELEVISION HOURS. THE SLOVAK RTV WAS DISTANT SECOND WITH 2520 HOURS OF RADIO PROGRAMME. AS TO FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLICS, ACCORDING TO THE SAME SOURCE, THE MACEDONIAN RTV BROADCAST 288 HOURS OF TELEVISION PROGRAMME, WHILE THE SLOVENIAN RTV BROADCAST 142 OF RADIO AND 42 HOURS OF TELEVISION PROGRAMME (IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THE RTV OF SLOVENIA DIFFERENTIATED BETWEEN ETHNIC AND IMMIGRANTS' PROGRAMMES).

AS FAR AS YUGOSLAVIA IS CONCERNED, THE NOVI SAD RTV HAS MAINTAINED A HIGH LEVEL AND STANDARD OF RADIO AND TV PROGRAMMES IN MINORITY LANGUAGES, DESPITE THE DIFFICULT ECONOMIC SITUATION AGGRAVATED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS.

FURTHERMORE, IN SERBIA ALONE 93 PAPERS ARE PUBLISHED IN MINORITY LANGUAGES, MANY OF WHICH ARE EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, WHEREVER THE GOVERNMENT, PLAGUED BY FINANCIAL STRUCTURES ITSELF, PARTICULARLY NOW, IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE NECESSARY SUBSIDIES TO ENSURE THE PUBLICATION OF THESE PAPERS AT THE LEVEL OF THEIR PREVIOUS CIRCULATION.

THE SITUATION IN THE MINORITY LANGUAGES MEDIA IS THE BEST ILLUSTRATION OF THE IMPACT OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON YUGOSLAVIA FOR, ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT HAS UNDERTAKEN UNDER THE COUNTRY'S CONSTITUTION AND POSITIVE LAWS AND IS WILLING TO SUBSIDIZE THE PUBLICATION OF MINORITY LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS, IT IS BECOMING EVER MORE DIFFICULT FOR IT TO REALIZE THIS UNDERTAKING. THIS COULD RESULT, AGAINST THE WILL OF THE GOVERNMENT STATE, IN MINORITIES' COMPLAINTS AND ALLEGATIONS THAT THEY ARE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST VIS-A-VIS OTHER CITIZENS. HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND THAT MANY CITIZENS, ESPECIALLY THE MOST VULNERABLE SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION (PENSIONERS, WORKERS ON MANDATE LEAVE, UNEMPLOYED) CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO BUY NEWSPAPERS DUE TO ROCKETING PRICES AS A RESULT OF THE IMPOSED SANCTIONS.

IT TAKES A DISCERNING AND UNBIASED EYE TO SEE THAT, DESPITE THE SITUATION IT HAS FOUND ITSELF IN, THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA HAS DONE NOTHING TO ENDANGER THE RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES. ON THE CONTRARY, THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IS PREPARING A LAW WHICH WILL PROVIDE THE MEMBERS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES AND ETHNIC GROUPS LIVING IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA WITH ADDITIONAL GUARANTEES TO THE NUMEROUS RIGHTS INCORPORATED IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA AND IN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS.

UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

THE UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS HAVE VERY ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND ITS INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION.

ALL YUGOSLAVIA'S AGREEMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, AS WELL AS ITS MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (UNDP, UNIDO, IAEA, ETC.) HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED AND ANNULLED, WHEREBY ITS COOPERATION WITH THESE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS HAS BEEN D SCONTINUED OR REDUCED TO A BARE MINIMUM (COOPERATION WITH UNESCO IS VERY LIMITED, WITH UNDP IT WAS UNTIL RECENTLY REDUCED TO HUMANITARIAN ACTIONS AND NOW IT IS PRACTICALLY SUSPENDED). IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE INTERRUPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME WITH RESPECT TO THE IV UNDP PROGRAMME CYCLE AND THE NON-APPROVAL OF A NEW NATIONAL PROGRAMME (V PROGRAMME CYCLE) CAUSED: I) LOSS OF ABOUT 8 MILLION DOLLARS (DIRECT UNDP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR EUROPE), II) LOSS OF ADDITIONAL 40 MILLION DOLLARS (WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN ATTRACTED BY INITIAL RESOURCES). FURTHERMORE, THE SUSPENSION OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PHARE PROGRAMME (WITH EC) ACCOUNTED FOR THE LOSS OF PROJECT FINANCING OF ABOUT 45 MILLION ECU (WHICH WAS EXPECTED TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE TERRITORY OF THE PRESENT FR OF YUGOSLAVIA). OF COURSE, FINANCIAL AND OTHER LOSSES ARE FAR GREATER IF ACCOUNT IS TAKEN OF OTHER NUMEROUS PROGRAMMES WITH THE MOST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

ALL PROJECTS WITH THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PARTNERS OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN THE FIELD OF SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED, POSTPONED OR FROZEN. THIS ACCOUNTED FOR THE IMPOSSIBILITY TO REALIZE PROJECTS OF SPECIFIC INTEREST FOR YUGOSLAVIA'S DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS A MARKET AND EFFECTIVE ECONOMY; THE IMPOSSIBILITY TO USE INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES AND EXCHANGE MATERIAL, EQUIPMENT, EXPERTS; THE IMPOSSIBILITY TO OBTAIN ASSISTANCE (FINANCIAL, TECHNICAL, ETC.). FOR EXAMPLE, ONLY IN COOPERATION WITH THE USA, THE CONTINUATION OF OVER 100 JOINT PROJECTS HAS BEEN SUSPENDED (WHOSE VALUE IN DIRECT COSTS IS OVER 2 MILLION DOLLARS AND EXPECTED RESULTS MUCH HIGHER), WHILE THE SUSPENSION OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE JOINT FUND (ANNUAL INVESTMENT WAS 2.5 MILLION DOLLARS BOTH BY THE US AND YUGOSLAV SIDES) RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF MANY NEW PROJECTS. FURTHERMORE, CONSIDERING THE PROJECTS WITH EITHER OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES (PARTICULARLY ITALY, FR OF GERMANY, FRANCE, SPAIN, THE NETHERLANDS) OR EASTERN COUNTRIES (PARTICULARLY RUSSIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, POLAND, ETC.) THE LOSSES ARE MUCH GREATER.

OUR COUNTRY HAS BEEN EXCLUDED OR PREVENTED FROM OBTAINING INFORMATION (FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE WORK) FROM MAJOR INTERNATIONAL INSTALLATIONS AND DATA BASES (CERN, EARN, OLIS). SINCE THE MOST IMPORTANT DATA BASE AND INSTALLATIONS ARE CONTROLLED BY THE EC AND OECD - WHICH SEVERED ALL COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA - NORMAL COMMUNICATIONS ARE IMPOSSIBLE NOT ONLY WITH EUROPE BUT ALSO WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING THE OBTAINING OF INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR THE ADJUSTMENT OF OUR PRODUCTION, TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC STANDARDS. THIS WILL, NO DOUBT, HAVE SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE YUGOSLAV SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR IT TO INTEGRATE SUCCESSFULLY INTO WORLD TRENDS FOR YEARS TO COME. IT IS ALSO NOT POSSIBLE TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS, RECEIVE FOREIGN MAGAZINES, EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION, WHICH MAKES THE PROTECTION OF PATENTS, LICENCES, ETC. IMPOSSIBLE OR VERY DIFFICULT.

THE BAN ON THE EXPORTS OF EQUIPMENT TO THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA CREATED THE SITUATION IN WHICH OUR SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS, AS WELL AS THE ENTIRE ECONOMY, ARE DEPRIVED OF THE POSSIBILITY TO OBTAIN THE INDISPENSABLE EQUIPMENT NEEDED NOT ONLY FOR THE MODERNIZATION BUT ALSO FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE EXISTING TECHNICAL CAPACITY, MOST OF WHICH HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT EQUIPMENT, RESEARCH AND OTHER MATERIAL ARE OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE FOR THE SCIENTIFIC AND ESPECIALLY TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT, IT IS NORMAL THAT THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF RESEARCH AND EFFECTIVE APPLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESULTS IN PRACTICE HAVE DECLINED.

ALMOST ALL SPECIALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR EXPERTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED (PARTICULARLY THE MOST IMPORTANT FORMS OF SPECIALIZATION, POSTGRADUATE STUDIES, ETC.) SINCE THESE FORMS OF COOPERATION WERE MAINLY BASED ON INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS (AGREEMENTS WITH GOVERNMENTS, THE JOINT YUGOSLAV-US SCIENTIFIC FUND, THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAMME, ETC.). AT LEAST OVER 500 YUGOSLAV SCIENTISTS AND YOUNG EXPERTS AVAILED THEMSELVES OF FOREIGN SPECIALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM VARIOUS INTER-STATE AGREEMENTS AND PROGRAMMES (WITHIN THE PROJECT COOPERATION WITH THE USA OVER 100 A YEAR, WITHIN THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAMME 50, ON THE BASIS OF COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ABOUT 30, WITHIN COOPERATION WITH JAPAN 25, ETC.).

SUCH A SITUATION INDUCED A LARGE NUMBER OF YOUNG EXPERTS TO DECIDE TO GO ABROAD WHICH, ON THE ONE HAND, DEALT A SERIOUS BLOW TO MANY YUGOSLAV INSTITUTIONS (EXPERTS LEAVING THEIR JOBS) AND, ON THE OTHER, OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE (EMIGRATION OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE JUST GRADUATED ESPECIALLY IN INDUSTRIES VERY MUCH NEEDED BY OUR ECONOMY). ONLY AT THE END OF 1991, DURING 1992 AND IN EARLY 1993, 181 EXPERTS LEFT YUGOSLAV UNIVERSITIES (ALTHOUGH ALL OF THEM WERE MATERIALLY TAKEN CARE OF), AS WELL AS A GREAT NUMBER OF GRADUATE STUDENTS, EVEN SECONDARY-SCHOOL STUDENTS, (IN BELGRADE SECONDARY SCHOOLS ALONE, 63 STUDENTS LEFT IN 1991, 85 DURING 1992 AND 24 IN ONE MONTH AND A HALF IN 1993).

ON THE WHOLE, THE SANCTIONS HAVE HAD VERY HARMFUL AND SERIOUS EFFECTS ON THE DEVELOPMENT IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA. THEY HAVE AGGRAVATED EVEN FURTHER YEARS-LONG ADVERSE ECONOMIC TRENDS, DEEPENED THE EXISTING DISPROPORTIONS IN DEVELOPMENT, AND HAVE BEEN A CONTRIBUTORY FACTOR IN THE

SHARP FALL OF PRODUCTION AND GDP, MASS UNEMPLOYMENT, HYPERINFLATION, INCREASING BALANCE-OF-PAYMENT DEFICIT AND DEEP STRUCTURAL DISTORTIONS, STYMIEING EACH AND EVERY DYNAMISM AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE ECONOMY. THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE PERIOD OF THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS ALL INDICES HAVE BEEN NEGATIVE:

- INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION FELL BY ABOUT 40 PER CENT DURING THE SAID PERIOD; IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1993 ALONE, THE VOLUME OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION WAS LOWER BY 22 PER CENT AS AGAINST DECEMBER 1992;
- IN 1992, EXPORTS FELL (AS AGAINST 1991) BY 46 PER CENT (EXPORTS TO DEVELOPED MARKETS FELL BY 54 PER CENT);
- BALANCE-OF-PAYMENT DEFICIT MULTIPLIED OVER 2.5 TIMES IN THE 1991-1992 PERIOD;
- UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG THE WORKING AND EDUCATED POPULATION INCREASED TO OVER 22 PER CENT IN 1992 (60 PER CENT OF THEM GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITIES OR COMPLETED HIGHER OR SECONDARY SCHOOLS).

THE ISOLATION AND EXCOMMUNICATION OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA FROM INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN MANIFESTED IN PRACTICE ALSO BY MANY EXAMPLES OF ONE-SIDED INTERPRETATIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION BY SOME STATES WHICH, CONSIDERING THE CHARACTER AND SCOPE OF THE MEASURES TAKEN, OFTEN GO FAR BEYOND THE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE UNITED NATIONS.

THE SUSPENSION OF SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND CULTURAL COOPERATION DUE TO THE UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE OBLIGATIONS OF STATES ENSHRINED IN THE PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (ARTICLE 15, PARA 4) RELATING TO PROVIDING ASSISTANCE AND DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL LINKS AND COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND CULTURE.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ESTABLISHING SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA DO NOT PROVIDE FOR MEASURES AGAINST THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA. HOWEVER, IT WAS TO BE ASSUMED ALREADY AT THE TIME OF THE IMPOSITION OF THE SANCTIONS AND IT HAS BEEN PROVED EVER SINCE THAT THE EFFECTS OF THE SANCTIONS CANNOT BE LIMITED TO THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SPHERES ALONE. ON THE CONTRARY THE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE PROCLAIMED GOAL OF IMPOSING SANCTIONS NOT AGAINST THE POPULATION, ITS HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT AND THE REAL SITUATION IS THERE FOR EVERYBODY TO SEE.

ENORMOUS ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE HAS BEEN DONE SINCE THE ENVIRONMENT IS AN INTEGRAL AND INSEPARABLE PART OF LIFE AND DEVELOPMENT. THIS WAS CONFIRMED ALSO AT THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT HELD IN RIO DE JANEIRO IN JUNE 1992. THE ENVIRONMENT KNOWS NO FRONTIERS. THE EFFECTS OF THE SANCTIONS ARE TELLTALE PROOF THAT A PRECEDENT HAS BEEN MADE IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS, IN VIOLATION OF MANY DOCUMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AIMED AT ADDRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AS A CIVILIZATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AT THE END OF THE 20TH CENTURY.

NOT ONLY IS THE POPULATION OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN DANGER BUT ALSO THE PEOPLE OF NEIGHBOURING AND OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. OUR REGION HAS BECOME TESTING GROUND OF THE READINESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO COMPLY WITH THE PRINCIPLES IT ITSELF HAS ADOPTED, PRIMARILY THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES OF MAN'S RIGHT TO LIFE IN A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT. MAN AS A HUMAN BEING IS ENDANGERED, IE., HIS INALIENABLE RIGHTS TO HEALTH, PRESERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, TO THE REDUCTION AND PREVENTION OF ALL FORMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION, HIS RIGHT TO HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND THE REALIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD, HIS RIGHT TO A HUMANE APPROACH TO HIS LIFE AND DEVELOPMENT, AS WELL AS MANY OTHER RIGHTS HE IS ENTITLED TO IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC STANDARDS. ALL THIS HAS HAD A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE EXERCISE OF INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE HUMAN RIGHTS AND ON THE QUALITY OF MANS LIFE AND LIFE EXPECTANCY.

THE IMPACT THE SANCTIONS HAVE HAD ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IS MANIFOLD AND VERY ADVERSE. IT IS MANIFESTED PRIMARILY IN THE EVER MORE FREQUENT DESTRUCTION TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT OF MAN'S SURROUNDINGS AND IN THE DETERIORATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS AND THE PROTECTION REGIME.

THERE ARE MANY EXAMPLES OF THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF SANCTIONS.

IN CONDITIONS OF ECONOMIC ISOLATION AND EXISTENTIAL THREAT, WITTINGLY OR UNWITTINGLY MAN BECOMES A BIRD OF PREY TO NATIONAL RESOURCES, EVEN THOSE SUBJECT TO SPECIAL PROTECTION REGIME. A FORCED PAUPERIZATION OF A SOCIETY REDUCES ITS READINESS AND CAPACITIES TO INVEST IN THE ENVIRONMENT. IN YUGOSLAVIA'S CASE UNCONTROLLED DEFORESTATION INCREASES THE DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND MAY CAUSE SIGNIFICANT CLIMATIC CHANGES IN THE CARPATHIANS .

THERE IS AN INCREASING LIKELIHOOD THAT POLLUTION COULD BE "EXPORTED" FROM THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA TO OTHER COUNTRIES OR "IMPORTED" TO THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA FROM THEM SINCE POLLUTION KNOWS NO FRONTIERS. THERE IS ALSO AN INCREASING RISK OF ILLEGAL IMPORT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AND POLLUTION CAUSED BY ENVIRONMENTAL ACCIDENTS.

ADEQUATE SUBSTITUTION OF IMPORTED RAW MATERIALS AND INTERMEDIARY GOODS, IN THE CONDITIONS OF SANCTIONS, IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE. BECAUSE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN SPARE PARTS, THERE IS AN IMMINENT DANGER THAT ACCIDENTS IN SOME INSTALLATIONS MIGHT CAUSE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION WHOSE CONSEQUENCES WOULD AFFECT THE AREA BEYOND NATIONAL BORDERS (E.G. THE HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANT "DJERDAP" COULD BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BECAUSE THE LACK SPARE PARTS COULD PREVENT ADEQUATE MAINTANCE OF HINTERLAND PROTECTION FACILITIES, WHEREFORE ABOUT 100 THOUSAND HECTARES OF ARABLE LAND IN VOJVODINA MIGHT BE INUNDATED THIS SPRING).

DUE TO ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AND THE ISOLATION OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, COOPERATION IN MANY INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED. INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT HAS BEEN WITHHELD, TOO. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 23 COOPERATION PROJECTS IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA PREVIOUSLY VERIFIED ON VARIOUS BASES, HAVE BEEN CALLED OFF, IT IS THUS EXPECTED THAT THE OVERALL INVESTMENT LOSS WILL AMOUNT TO US $ 1.5 BILLION (E.G. LOSS BECAUSE OF COOPERATION SUSPENSION OF THE TEMPUS PROJECT CONCERNING EDUCATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION EXPERTS BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD AND EC COUNTRIES: LOSS BECAUSE OF YUGOSLAVIA'S NON-PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN THE DANUBE BASIN WHICH IS BEING PREPARED IN THE EC AND IS VALUED AT SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS AND, IF THE SANCTIONS CONTINUE TO BE APPLIED AND THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IS REMOVED FROM THIS PROJECT, THE LOSS WILL REACH THE FIGURE OF SEVERAL HUNDRED MILLION US DOLLARS IN THE COMING YEARS. THE LONG-TERM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE SANCTIONS CAN ALSO RESULT FROM THE SUSPENSION OF COOPERATION WITH THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN THE PROTECTION OF THE ADRIATIC FROM POLLUTION WITHIN THE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PROGRAMME).

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, STUDY TOURS AND PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS HAVE ALSO BEEN SUSPENDED, AS WELL AS THE USE OF DATA BASES IN MANY INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS UN, UNEP, OECD, EC, HEXAGONALE, MEDITERRANEAN PROJECT, REGIONAL CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT IN BUDAPEST, ETC. YUGOSLAV DATA HAVE BEEN DENIED ACCESS TO DATA BASES AT THE REGIONAL EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS. THE DAMAGE CAUSED IN THAT WAY CANNOT BE ESTIMATED FROM THE FINANCIAL POINT OF VIEW BUT IS CERTAINLY SUBSTANTIAL AND LONG-TERM.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS HAS BEEN JEOPARDIZED (THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA RATIFIED 49 CONVENTIONS). THE SANCTIONS HAVE, THUS, PREVENTED THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA FROM

IMPLEMENTING THE CONVENTION ON THE OZONE LAYER PROTECTION AND THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL CONCERNING THE SUBSTITUTION OF CFC IN CHEMICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL AND OTHER PREPARATIONS AND THE PRODUCTION OF REFRIGERATORS. THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA DOES NOT PRODUCE CFC, BUT BECAUSE OF THE SANCTIONS IT CANNOT ACCELERATE THE SUBSTITUTION OF CFC-BASED TECHNOLOGIES.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLEAN AND SAFE TECHNOLOGIES HAS BEEN SLOWED DOWN AFFECTING NOT ONLY YUGOSLAVIA BUT ALSO THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.

THE SYSTEM OF CONTROL AND MONITORING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY IS ALSO THREATENED.

THE SANCTIONS ALSO HAMPER THE REALIZATION OF AN EXCEPTIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT - THE IDEA OF AN ECOLOGICAL STATE IN MONTENEGRO, ONE OF THE REPUBLICS OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA.

IN THE CONDITIONS OF SANCTIONS, CULTURAL MONUMENTS UNDER UNESCO PROTECTION (KOTOR, TARA, SOPOCANI) INCLUDED IN THE WORLD HERITAGE CAN BE ALSO ENDANGERED, BECAUSE OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION AND EVER MORE DIFFICULT CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROTECTION MEASURES, ON THE ONE HAND, AND, ON THE OTHER, BECAUSE OF THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF THE INCREASED ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION.

UNFORTUNATELY, THIS SUMMARY DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL INSTANCES OF ADVERSE AND, IN SOME CASES, DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF SANCTIONS ON THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT. ON THE CONTRARY, EVERY DAY THE SANCTIONS ARE APPLIED INCREASES NOT ONLY THE SCOPE OF THE PRESENT PROBLEMS BUT CREATES NEW ONES AS WELL.

AT THE THRESHOLD OF THE 21 ST CENTURY, WHEN ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS ARE TREATED AS IN INTEGRAL PART OF DEVELOPMENT, THE CITIZENS OF A COUNTRY, A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, ARE DENIED THEIR INALIENABLE RIGHTS TO LIFE AND HEALTH.

THE ISOLATION OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA ALREADY HAS AND WILL HAVE UNFORESEEABLE, EVEN IRREPARABLE, CONSEQUENCES FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION OF ITS POPULATION.

THERE IS A REAL DANGER THAT THE ENVIRONMENT OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD BE PERMANENTLY DAMAGED WHICH CAN THREATEN FURTHER OVERALL DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION. THE EFFECTS OF THE ISOLATION FROM THE WORLD, IRRESPECTIVE OF THE PROCLAIMED POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC GOALS, WILL BE FELT BY FUTURE INNOCENT GENERATIONS. THE LIFTING OF SANCTIONS IN THIS AREA IS, THEREFORE, THE MAIN PRECONDITION FOR ENSURING THE SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS, GUARANTEED TO THEM BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN ITS BASIC DOCUMENTS.

SANCTIONS AND SOCIAL BENEFITS REMITTANCES TO YUGOSLAVIA

BAN OF ALL FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS IMPOSED BY UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 757 INTERRUPTED PAYMENT OF FOREIGN PENSIONS, CHILD AND OTHER SOCIAL BENEFITS TO RECIPIENTS LIVING IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, SO THAT NOW, ONE YEAR LATER, THEIR VERY EXISTENCE IS SERIOUSLY THREATENED.

IN YUGOSLAVIA THERE ARE ABOUT 80 THOUSAND RECIPIENTS OF FOREIGN PENSIONS, ABOUT 40 THOUSAND OF CHILDREN RECEIVING FOREIGN SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS AND 500 THOUSAND OF PERSONS ENTITLED TO FOREIGN HEALTH INSURANCE, INCLUDING RETIRED PERSONS AND MEMBERS OF FAMILIES OF YUGOSLAV WORKERS EMPLOYED ABROAD. IN MOST CASES, THESE RIGHTS HAVE BEEN REGULATED BY BILATERAL SOCIAL INSURANCE AGREEMENTS WHICH YUGOSLAVIA CONCLUDED WITH 20 COUNTRIES AND WHICH, IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, CONTINUE IN FORCE IN ALL OTHER PROVISIONS. THESE AGREEMENTS COMPRISE THE PRINCIPLES ENSHRINED IN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM SUCH AS THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING ILO CONVENTIONS SUCH AS CONVENTION NO. 102 CONCERNING MINIMUM STANDARDS OF SOCIAL SECURITY AND CONVENTION NO. 48 CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF MIGRANT WORKERS. BY IMPLEMENTING RESOLUTION 757 IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL SECURITY, UNITED NATIONS MEMBER-STATES VIOLATE IN THE MOST FLAGRANT WAY THE SAID PRINCIPLES, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE NOT REQUESTED TO DO SO IN THE RESOLUTION. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SANCTIONS IN THIS FIELD IS IN DIRECT CONTRAVENTION OF ARTICLE 9 OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS WHICH GUARANTEES THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO SOCIAL PROTECTION AND INSURANCE.

THE YUGOSLAV SIDE TOOK A NUMBER OF STEPS IN ORDER TO CREATE CONDITIONS IN WHICH UNITED NATIONS MEMBER-STATES GOVERNMENTS COULD BRING POSITIVE DECISIONS ON THIS MATTER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS. SO, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BROUGHT A DECREE INSTRUCTING YUGOSLAV BANKS TO DISBURSE WITHIN SEVEN DAYS ALL PENSIONS, RENTS, CHILD AND OTHER SOCIAL BENEFITS REMITTED FROM ABROAD TO THEIR RECIPIENTS. COMPETENT AUTHORITIES IN ALL RELEVANT FOREIGN COUNTRIES, SUCH AS MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MINISTRIES OF LABOUR AND LIAISON DEPARTMENTS IN CHARGE OF IMPLEMENTING SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF THIS DECREE. THEY HAVE BEEN ALSO OFFERED TRANSFER MODALITIES THAT WOULD MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SAID COMMITTEE.

UNFORTUNATELY, CONCRETE RESULTS ARE NOT YET FORTHCOMING. ONLY THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND AUSTRALIA CONTINUE TO SEND CHEQUES TO THEIR PENSIONERS IN YUGOSLAVIA.

IT IS REALISTIC TO EXPECT THAT, AFTER THE TIGHTENING OF SANCTIONS ON 25 APRIL 1993, THE SITUATION WILL BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT. AS IT STANDS NOW, GERMANY, AUSTRIA, FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN, ALLOW YUGOSLAV CITIZENS TO COLLECT THEIR BENEFITS IN THESE COUNTRIES. UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, THIS IS ALSO POSSIBLE IN THE NETHERLANDS. ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE INFORMATION OVER 50 PER CENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFICIARIES HAVE TRAVELLED ABROAD TO COLLECT THEIR MONEY. IN DOING SO, THEY HAVE EXPOSED THEMSELVES TO FINANCIAL AND PHYSICAL STRAINS, AS WELL AS TO ALL SORTS OF OTHER HUMILIATIONS AS THEY QUEUE FOR VISAS, CHANGE BUSES, TRAINS OR PLANES AND ARE OFTEN TREATED IN A MOST UNCOOPERATIVE WAY AS THEY PURSUE ONE OF THE MOST BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS ENSHRINED IN ALL INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS. MOST OF THESE PEOPLE ARE OF ADVANCED AGE AND OFTEN NOT IN THE BEST OF HEALTH AND IT IS AN OUTRAGE TO THINK THAT THEY ARE DENIED THEIR LONG-DESERVED RIGHTS JUST FOR BEING YUGOSLAV NATIONALS. THEY LEFT THEIR HOMELAND IN THE 1960S WHEN THEY WERE AT THEIR PRIME AND INVESTED ALL THEIR ENERGIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEWLY-FOUND HOME, IF ONLY TO FIND THEMSELVES DENIED OF THEIR RIGHTS GUARANTEED BY BILATERAL AGREEMENTS EVEN IN CASE THEY ARE BROKEN.

SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS IMPOSED IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

THE MANNER IN WHICH THE SANCTIONS AGAINST THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA WERE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS BY FAR EXCEEDS THE FRAMEWORK ESTABLISHED UNDER THE RELEVANT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS, THUS THREATENING THE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS GUARANTEED BY THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER AND OTHER UN DOCUMENTS, INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS ADOPTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND UN MEMBER STATES IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. THE LATEST TIGHTENING OF SANCTIONS (SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 820 OF 17 APRIL 1993), ESPECIALLY PROHIBITING THE USE OF FREIGHT VEHICLES, ROLLING STOCK, SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN THIRD COUNTRIES AND THE COACH TRANSPORT, HAS AFFECTED THIS FIELD WHOSE 90-PER CENT SHARE IN THE GNP DROPPED TO BELOW 6 PER CENT.

1. ALL EC MEMBER COUNTRIES HAVE BANNED, BY SPECIAL ORDERS, ENTRY INTO THEIR TERRITORY OF BUSSES BEARING YUGOSLAV REGISTRATION PLATES AND OF THOSE WITH FOREIGN REGISTRATION CARRYING YUGOSLAV PASSENGERS. THIS HAS BEEN BASED ON THE EC ORDER PROHIBITING FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH YUGOSLAV ENTERPRISES, WHICH EXCEEDS THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY THE SC RESOLUTIONS, WHICH PROHIBIT ONLY IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF CERTAIN KINDS OF GOODS AND DO NOT PERTAIN TO TRANSPORTATION OF GOODS AND PASSENGERS.

AS A RESULT OF THESE MEASURES, THE YUGOSLAV CITIZENS WORKING ABROAD ON A PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY

BASIS HAVE BEEN PUT INTO A DIFFICULT POSITION, SINCE A LARGE NUMBER OF THEM IS COMING TO YUGOSLAVIA TO VISIT THEIR RELATIVES, ESPECIALLY FOR THE NEW YEAR AND EASTER HOLIDAYS, BY BUSSES WHOSE FARES ARE MORE ECONOMICAL.

2. REFERRING TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL EMBARGO AND TO THE OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL POOL OF INSURANCE ASSOCIATIONS ON THE ALLEGEDLY INCREASED RISK OF TRANSPORT DESTINATED TO, OR DEPARTING FROM YUGOSLAVIA BECAUSE OF THE OPEN OR CONCEALED
HOSTILITIES IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER SFRY, THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR ROAD TRANSPORT IN GENEVA REQUESTED THE UN MEMBER COUNTRIES TO BAN ENTRY INTO THEIR RESPECTIVE TERRITORIES OF VEHICLES BEARING YUGOSLAV REGISTRATION.

THERE EXIST NO GROUNDS FOR THE ABOVE PROHIBITION BECAUSE THERE HAVE NOT BEEN, AND THERE ARE NO WAR OPERATIONS IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAGVIA, NEITHER ARE THE TRUCKS PASSING THROUGH YUGOSLAVIA SUBJECT TO ANY OTHER INCREASED RISK. THEIR TRANSIT THROUGH YUGOSLAVIA IS SAFE AND FREE OF ANY PARTICULAR PROBLEMS. MOREOVER, THE SC RESOLUTIONS DO NOT PROVIDE FOR THE BAN OF ENTRY OF TRUCKS, BEARING YUGOSLAV REGISTRATION, IN THE TERRITORY OF OTHER STATES FOR THE SHIPMENT OF DRUGS, MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, FOOD AND PERSONAL EFFECTS OF YUGOSLAV CITIZENS TRANSFERRED FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO YUGOSLAVIA AND VICE-VERSA.

3. REFERRING TO THE DECISION BY THE SWISS GOVERNMENT, THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR ROAD TRANSPORT IN GENEVA PROHIBITTED THE ISSUANCE OF TIR CARNETS TO THE YUGOSLAV CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND CEASED THEIR DISTRIBUTION TO YUGOSLAV SHIPPING AGENTS. THIS PROHIBITION IS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE TIR CONVENTION ADOPTED BY THE UN ECE IN 1975. ARTICLE 7 OF THIS CONVENTION DOES NOT ALLOW INTRODUCTION OF SUCH BANS. IT ALSO REQUESTED UN MEMBER STATES TO BAR ALL VEHICLES WITH YUGOSLAV REGISTRATION FROM ENTERING THEIR TERRITORIES.

4. SOME WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, FR OF GERMANY IN PARTICULAR, HAVE UNDERTAKEN ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO RESTRICT THE TRANSPORT OF PASSENGERS TO YUGOSLAVIA IN A MANNER WHICH HAS NOT BEEN ENVISAGED BY THE SC RESOLUTION.

THE GERMAN AUTHORITIES FIRST PROHIBITED THE SALE OF TICKETS IN THEIR TERRITORY TO PASSENGERS DESIGNATED FOR YUGOSLAVIA, AND SUBSEQUENTLY ALSO ENTRY INTO AND TRANSIT THROUGH THEIR TERRITORY OF PASSENGER WAGONS OF THE YUGOSLAV RAILWAYS. THESE
PROHIBITIONS ARE IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY TRANSPORT AND ANNEXES THERETO.

5. DRIVERS AND PASSENGERS OF VEHICLES WITH YUGOSLAV REGISTRATION PLATES ARE HELD FOR MANY HOURS, EVEN WEEKS, ILL TREATED AND HUMILIATED IN ALL SORTS OF WAYS AT BORDER CROSSINGS WITH HUNGARY, AUSTRIA AND SOME OTHER COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH THEY POSSESS APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY ARE SHIPPING MEDICINE AND HUMANITARIAN AID, ALLOWED BY THE SC RESOLUTIONS, POLICE AND CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES OF THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES ARE

HOLDING VEHICLES WITH YUGOSLAV REGISTRATION PLATES AT BORDER CROSSINGS FOR SEVEN OR MORE DAYS, THOUGH THERE ARE NO GROUNDS FOR THIS IN THE SC RESOLUTIONS. SEVERAL ELDERLY PEOPLE AND CHILDREN FROM YUGOSLAVIA DIED WHILE THEY WERE WAITING IN THEIR CARS OR BUSES FOR HOURS IN THE 1992 SUMMER HEAT TO PASS THE OTHERWISE ROUTINE AND SHORT CUSTOMS PROCEDURE AT THE YUGOSLAV-HUNGARIAN BORDER CROSSING AT HORGOS.

BECAUSE OF THIS DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT AT BORDER CROSSINGS, PASSENGER TRAFFIC CANNOT BE CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO SCHEDULE, WHILE DRIVERS TIRE OUT AND HAVE TO WORK LONGER THAN PROVIDED BY THE EUROPEAN AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE WORK OF CREWS OF VEHICLES ENGAGED IN INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT (AETR) WITH DIRECT CONSEQUENCES FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY. DUE TO RESTRICTED ENTRY TO VEHICLES WITH YUGOSLAV REGISTRATION PLATES TO SOME COUNTRIES AND SPECIAL TREATMENT ACCORDED THESE VEHICLES,

PASSENGERS ARE HUMILIATED INTO BOARDING, AND THEIR LUGGAGE IS RELOADED ON TO FOREIGN BUSES, WHICH RAISES THE OVERALL TRAVEL EXPENSES WHICH ARE CHARGED TO PASSENGERS.

6. DUE TO THE OIL AND OIL PRODUCTS EMBARGO THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES USED PER DAY HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED. CITY TRANSPORT COUNTRY-WIDE HAS BEEN MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED. BUSES ARE OVERCROWDED WHICH INCONVENIENCES IN PARTICULAR
ELDERLY PEOPLE, MOTHERS WITH SMALL CHILDREN, PREGNANT WOMEN, THE BLIND AND DISABLED. POOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT AFFECTS ALSO OVER 700 000 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

7. THE EMBARGO HAS PUT AN END TO REGULAR AIR TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES: 40 PLANES OF YUGOSLAV AIR COMPANIES HAVE BEEN GROUNDED, WHILE PASSENGERS ARE COMPELLED TO USE MORE COMPLICATED AND LONGER WAYS TO TRAVEL. THE CONSEQUENCES ARE FELT NOT ONLY IN YUGOSLAVIA: IN 1991, 648 000 PASSENGERS ARRIVED TO, AND 692 000 PASSENGERS LEFT, YUGOSLAVIA ON BOARD YUGOSLAV AND FOREIGN AIRLINES FROM BELGRADE AND OTHER YUGOSLAV AIRPORTS. IN A PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT SITUATION ARE SERIOUSLY SICK PEOPLE WHOSE ONLY HOPE IS A TRIP ABROAD FOR COMPLICATED OPERATIONS FINANCED BY AND LARGE FROM VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF CITIZENS. THE NEAREST INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (BUDAPEST OR SOFIA) IS A 6-TO 10-HOUR CAR RIDE AWAY, REACHABLE ONLY AFTER LONG WAITS AT BORDER CROSSINGS, OFTEN IN WINTER COLD OR SUMMER HEAT.

INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER TRAFFIC IS A PROFIT-MAKING BUSINESS BOTH FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COMPANIES. HOWEVER, UN SANCTIONS IMPOSED AGAINST THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA HAVE AFFECTED AND WILL CONTINUE TO AFFECT PRIMARILY THE MAN IN THE STREET. HIS TRAVEL PLANS, EITHER FOR BUSINESS, PLEASURE OR MEDICAL TREATMENT, FOR INSTANCE. MAKE TRAVEL TO, AND CONTACT AMONG, PEOPLE DIFFICULT, EVEN DENY THEM TODAY WHEN THEY ARE RIGHTLY CONSIDERED CIVILIZATIONAL BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO ALL IS ANACHRONISTIC AND INHUMAN.

SPORTS AND SANCTIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 757 OF 30 MAY 1992, AMONG OTHER THINGS, CALLS ON ALL MEMBER-STATES TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO PREVENT INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS REPRESENTING THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA FROM PARTICIPATING IN ATHLETIC EVENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

SINCE THE ADOPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION, YUGOSLAV ATHLETES HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE ONLY IN INDIVIDUAL EVENTS AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN BARCELONA, IN THE DISABLED PARAOLYMPICS ALSO IN BARCELONA AND IN SOME BALKAN, EUROPEAN AND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, AS WELL AS IN SOME INDIVIDUAL INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS IN TRACK AND FIELD, ROWING, GYMNASTICS, KARATE, TABLE TENNIS, TENNIS, MARKSMANSHIP, FENCING AND CHESS.

DUE TO THESE UNFAIR AND ONE-SIDED SANCTIONS, THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA HAS BEEN TAKEN AWAY THE ORGANIZATION OF THE 1994 WORLD BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP AND THE WORLD STUDENT JUDO CHAMPIONSHIP.

SIMILARLY, AS A RESULT OF THESE SANCTIONS, THE YUGOSLAV NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM HAS BEEN DISQUALIFIED FROM THE 1994 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION IN AN EXTREMELY DRAMATIC AND UNDIGNIFIED MANNER AND RETURNED FROM SWEDEN IN JUNE 1992. OUR NATIONAL HANDBALL AND VOLLEYBALL TEAMS (MEN AND WOMEN) WERE NOT ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS. YUGOSLAV ATHLETES HAVE BEEN BARRED FROM ALL EUROPEAN AND WORLD TEAM COMPETITIONS.

SINCE, IN TEAM SPORTS, THE PARTICIPATION AND SUCCESS IN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE A PREREQUISITE FOR PARTICIPATION IN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND SINCE THEY REPRESENT QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE 1996 OLYMPICS, IT IS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT OUR ATHLETES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1996 OLYMPICS BECAUSE OF THE BAN ON COMPETING IN TEAM SPORTS EVENTS.

THE INABILITY OF YUGOSLAV ATHLETES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SAID COMPETITIONS WILL CERTAINLY RESULT IN A FALL IN THE LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE, BOTH ATHLETIC AND COACHING, AS A CONSEQUENCE OF A LOSS OF MOTIVATION AND INTEREST IN SPORTS IN GENERAL.

THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA HAS REPEATEDLY CALLED ON MANY RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ATHLETIC FORA, AS WELL AS ON THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS COMMITTEE TO RECONSIDER AND POSSIBLY LIFT THE BAN ON THE PARTICIPATION OF YUGOSLAV ATHLETES IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION BUT, REGRETTABLY, ALL THESE CALLS WENT UNHEEDED. IN CONDITIONS OF SANCTIONS, ALL THE PROPOSALS OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA TO DATE HAVE BEEN BASED ON THE NEED TO ENSURE THE SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS IN YUGOSLAVIA AND ON THE ENDEAVOUR TO MAINTAIN THE ESSENTIAL CONTACTS WITH THE WORLD.

YUGOSLAV ATHLETES HAVE DONE EXCEPTIONALLY WELL IN A NUMBER OF SPORTS, ESPECIALLY IN TEAM SPORTS (BASKETBALL, HANDBALL, WATERPOLO, FOOTBALL AND VOLLEYBALL) AND, QUITE RIGHTLY, RANK AMONG THE BEST IN THE WORLD. THE QUALITY AND RHYTHM THAT YUGOSLAV ATHLETES CONTRIBUTED TO INTERNATIONAL SPORTS EVENTS HAVE BEEN QUITE REMARKABLE AND THEIR ABSENCE FROM THESE EVENTS IS VERY NOTICEABLE INDEED. THIS IS TESTIFIED BY NUMEROUS STATEMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL OFFICIALS AND ATHLETES THEMSELVES. UNFORTUNATELY, THESE STATEMENTS HAVE FAILED TO MOVE THOSE WHO MAKE DECISIONS AS THEY REMAIN UNIMPRESSED. SO, IN THE FIELD IN WHICH POLITICS HAS THE LEAST RIGHT TO BE INVOLVED AND IN WHICH ALL HURDLES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE SURMOUNTED THE EASIEST WAY, GRAVE INJUSTICE HAS BEEN MADE TO ONE OF THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS MEMBERS OF THE WORLD SPORTS FAMILY - THE YUGOSLAV ATHLETIC MOVEMENT AND ITS ATHLETES.

SUCH AN ATTITUDE RUNS AGAINST THE GRAIN OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHERE IT IS SAID IN UNAMBIGUOUS TERMS THAT NO NATION WILL BE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST ON THE BASIS OF THE POLITICAL, LEGAL OR INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF ITS COUNTRY OR TERRITORY, NO MATTER WHETHER IT IS INDEPENDENT, UNDER TRUSTEESHIP, NON-SELF-GOVERNING OR WHETHER ITS SOVEREIGNTY IS LIMITED IN ANY OTHER WAY. AT THE SAME TIME, SUCH AN ATTITUDE OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND OF SOME INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES IN PARTICULAR, IS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION WHICH GRANTS EQUAL PROTECTION TO EVERYONE, ESPECIALLY AGAINST ANY DISCRIMINATION OR INSTIGATION TO SUCH DISCRIMINATION.

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA THEREFORE CALLS ONCE AGAIN ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, ATHLETIC FEDERATIONS AND WORLD ATHLETES IN PARTICULAR, TO PRESS THEIR COUNTRIES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ATHLETIC FEDERATIONS TO SEE THAT THESE UNFAIR AND INHUMAN SANCTIONS IMPOSED AGAINST YUGOSLAV ATHLETES BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ARE LIFTED SOON.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

AIDE MEMOIRE
ON THE REFUGEE PROBLEM IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADVISE OF A VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, PARTICULARLY IN THE SOCIAL FIELD, DUE TO A LARGE NUMBER OF REFUGEES WHO HAVE FOUND SHELTER IN YUGOSLAVIA AND WHOSE NUMBER IS INCREASING EVERY DAY. SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YUGOSLAV CRISIS WHICH CULMINATED IN ARMED CONFLICTS, FIRST IN CROATIA AND THEN IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, OVER HALF A MILLION OF REFUGEES ARRIVED IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, WITH ALL THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND OTHER CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A PROCESS.

THROUGH AN ORGANIZED SOCIETY-WIDE ACTION ALL NECESSARY MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN THE PAST PERIOD TO ALLEVIATE AND RESOLVE THESE PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, THESE PROBLEMS ARE BECOMING EVER MORE DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF A LARGE AND INCREASING NUMBER OF REFUGEES BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF THE LIMITATIONS FACED BY YUGOSLAVIA AND ITS POPULATION IN THEIR CAPABILITIES TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN AID IN A VERY DIFFICULT ECONOMIC SITUATION AS A CONSEQUENCE OF, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE UNFAIR SANCTIONS IMPOSED ON THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA. WHEN THESE SANCTIONS WERE ESTABLISHED NOBODY QUESTIONED THE HUMANENESS OF IMPOSING SEVERE ECONOMIC AND OTHER SANCTIONS ON A COUNTRY AND A PEOPLE TAKING UPON THEMSELVES THE HUMANE OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE SHELTER TO SUCH A LARGE NUMBER OF REFUGEES. BESIDES, POLITICAL FACTORS DO PLAY AN ENORMOUS ROLE ALSO IN THE HUMANITARIAN FIELD, SO THAT INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE EXTENDED TO REFUGEES IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, ESPECIALLY BILATERAL ASSISTANCE, IS INCOMPARABLY SMALLER THAN THE ASSISTANCE ARRIVING IN OTHER PARTS OF THE FORMER SFR OF YUGOSLAVIA AND IS DETERMINED IN GREAT MEASURE BY POLITICAL INTERESTS, AS IF THE REFUGEES IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA WERE NOT THE VICTIMS OF THE ONE AND THE SAME CONFLICT.

THIS UNEQUAL POSITION OF MORE THAN HALF A MILLION REFUGEES - SERBS, CROATS, MUSLIMS AND MEMBERS OF OTHER PEOPLES - IS CERTAINLY UNFAVOURABLY AFFECTED BY THE MEDIA DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SERBS AND THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA SYSTEMATICALLY PURSUED IN MANY COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD. DURING THE ARMED CONFLICT IN CROATIA, FOR INSTANCE, THE WORLD PUBLIC WAS NOT INFORMED AT ALL THAT OVER 250 000 SERBS HAD BEEN FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR ANCESTRAL HOMES TO SEEK REFUGE IN SERBIA. THE EXODUS OF THE SERB PEOPLE IN WESTERN SLAVONIA WAS NEVER CHARACTERIZED AS "ETHNIC CLEANSING" AND THE FACT THAT THE NUMBER OF SERBS IN ZAGREB AND OTHER CROATIAN TOWNS HAS BEEN REDUCED UNDER PRESSURE BY MORE THAN A HALF HAS NEVER BEEN ASSESSED AS A VIOLATION OF THEIR FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS.

EVEN MORE DISCRIMINATED ARE THE SERBS WHO WERE FORCED TO FLEE THE HORRORS OF THE WAR IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA. THE WORLD PUBLIC IS OVERWHELMED WITH THE NEWS OF THE TRAGIC FATE OF MUSLIM AND CROAT REFUGEES, WHILE ONLY A FEW WORLD AGENCIES HAVE REPORTED ON HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF SERBS WHO FLED THE DEVASTATION AND OTHER WAR HORRORS AND CAME TO SERBIA, MONTENEGRO AND PARTS OF KRAJINA.

WE, THEREFORE, EXPECT FROM INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS, CONSISTENT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF NEUTRALITY, IMPARTIALITY AND THE NON-POLITICAL CHARACTER OF THEIR ACTIVITY, TO CONTRIBUTE TO AN OBJECTIVE PRESENTATION OF THE HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS THAT YUGOSLAVIA IS DRAMATICALLY FACED WITH.

1. AT THIS MOMENT THERE ARE ABOUT 655 000 REFUGEES IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, 585 000 IN THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA AND 70 000 IN THE REPUBLIC OF MONTENEGRO. THIS NUMBER IS AUGMENTED BY 150 000 TO 200 000 OF OTHER REFUGEES IN SERBIA AND 10 000 IN MONTENEGRO WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED WITH THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES. THIS NUMBER IS NOT FINAL SINCE UP TO 1000 NEW REFUGEES ARRIVE IN SERBIA EVERY DAY.

AS TO NATIONALITY STRUCTURE, THE MOST NUMEROUS REFUGEES IN SERBIA ARE SERBS (84.2 PER CENT), MUSLIMS (6.2 PER CENT) AND CROATS (1.6 PER CENT). THE REMAINING 8 PER CENT ACCOUNTS FOR ALBANIAN, JEWISH, BULGARIAN, ROMANY AND HUNGARIAN REFUGEES. THERE IS AN EQUAL NUMBER OF MUSLIM, SERB AND MONTENEGRIN REFUGEES IN MONTENEGRO.

ALL REFUGEES IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA ARE PROVIDED A COLLECTIVE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL AND OTHER RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PROTECTION, IN THE WAY PROVIDED FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA.

THE REFUGEES UNABLE TO FIND BOARD AND ACCOMMODATION WITH RELATIVES, FRIENDS OR WITH OTHER CITIZENS ARE PROVIDED BOARD AND ACCOMMODATION IN COLLECTIVE FACILITIES. WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE CAPACITIES OF THE COUNTRY, THE REFUGEES ACCOMMODATED WITHIN FAMILIES ARE GRANTED MONTHLY ASSISTANCE IN FOOD, ITEMS OF PERSONAL HYGIENE, CLOTHES AND FOOTWEAR. THE TOKEN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WHICH REFUGEES ARE OTHERWISE ENTITLED TO IS NOT PAID SINCE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR THAT PURPOSE.

THE FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS OF THE YUGOSLAV FEDERAL AND REPUBLICAN ORGANS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF A LARGE NUMBER OF REFUGEES, AS WELL AS THE ASSISTANCE OF THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, HAVE PROVED INSUFFICIENT.

THE SITUATION AND STATUS OF THE REFUGEES IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IS FURTHER AGGRAVATED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS. THESE SANCTIONS HAVE BEEN DRAINING THE YUGOSLAV ECONOMY FOR 9 MONTHS NOW, SO THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES ARE AT THE VERGE OF EXISTENCE. IN COMPARISON TO

1991, THE SOCIAL PRODUCT HAS PLUMMETED DRASTICALLY, WHICH AGGRAVATES THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF THE POPULATION, ESPECIALLY THE MOST VULNERABLE GROUPS. OUT OF 2 300 000 PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN THE ECONOMY OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA IN NORMAL CONDITIONS, 800 000 OR ONE THIRD OF THE OVERALL NUMBER HAVE BEEN LAID OFF, WITH WAGES AND SALARIES REDUCED TO 70 PER CENT OF THE NORMAL PAY.

THE VERY PRECISE DATA CONTAINED IN THE LATEST "UNITED NATIONS REVISED INTERAGENCY APPEAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, APRIL TO DECEMBER 1993", ARE FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE DIFFICULT REFUGEE SITUATION IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA.

THIS SITUATION STRETCHES THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA BEYOND THE POINT OF ENDURANCE WITH REGARD TO PROVIDING HOUSING FOR THE REFUGEES AND HANDLING THEIR PROBLEMS. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS SHIFTED THE BRUNT OF THE BURDEN OF CARING FOR REFUGEES ONTO THE SHOULDERS OF THE CITIZENS OF YUGOSLAVIA. UNTIL TWO MONTHS AGO, ONLY 10-15 PER CENT OF THE OVERALL REFUGEE NEEDS WAS PROVIDED BY INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS. THIS PERCENTAGE HAS RECENTLY INCREASED TO ABOUT 30 PER CENT DUE PRIMARILY TO THE ADDITIONAL EFFORTS OF THE UNHCR, HUMANITARIAN BUREAU OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES (IFRC), INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC), BELGIAN BRANCH OF "MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES" AND SOME OTHERS.

BILATERAL ASSISTANCE WHICH OTHERWISE IS THE MAIN SOURCE OF FINANCING REFUGEES IN CROATIA, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA AND SLOVENIA, IS ALMOST NON-EXISTENT IN YUGOSLAVIA.

2. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA WISHES TO POINT IN PARTICULAR TO THE VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION OF REFUGEE CHILDREN AND WOMEN REFUGEES. THERE ARE ABOUT 250 000 REFUGEE CHILDREN IN YUGOSLAVIA, 1 200 OF THEM WITHOUT BOTH PARENTS. THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN, AS A POPULATION CATEGORY IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, PARTICULARLY REFUGEE CHILDREN, HAS WORSENED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS. IN WARRING ENVIRONMENT, THE SOCIAL CLIMATE IN WHICH CHILDREN ARE BEING RAISED IS SUCH AS TO PROVIDE FERTILE GROUND FOR MANY DISEASES, INCLUDING MENTAL ILLNESSES AND TRAUMAS. THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA AND, BY THE SAME TOKEN, THE POSITION OF REFUGEE CHILDREN, IS SERIOUSLY AFFECTED ALSO BY THE ENDANGERED RIGHTS TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE, TO QUALITY FOOD, SOCIAL PROTECTION ETC. THERE IS A LACK OF FOOD, MEDICINE AND SPARE PARTS FOR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, HEATING OIL FOR SCHOOLS AND HOSPITAL SO THAT CHILD MORTALITY IS RISING.

IN ADDITION TO REFUGEE CHILDREN, WOMEN REFUGEES, PARTICULARLY WOMEN WITH CHILDREN, ARE ALSO FACING A DIFFICULT SITUATION. THAT THE NUMBER OF WOMEN REFUGEES IS LARGE IS EVIDENCED BY THE FACT THAT AS MUCH AS 83 PER CENT OF ALL ADULT REFUGEES IN SERBIA ARE WOMEN. THIS POPULATION GROUP IS ADDITIONALLY ENDANGERED BECAUSE OF THEIR ILL-TREATMENT AND RAPE IN WAR ZONES.

3. THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT WISHES TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY IN PARTICULAR TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE SPECIFIC SITUATION FACED BY REFUGEES IN IT. THEY ARE AN EXAMPLE OF MASS EXILE UNKNOWN THUS FAR EITHER TO THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS OR TO YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES CONSIDERING THE FACT THAT 96.9 PER CENT OF ALL REFUGEES HAVE EITHER PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION. THE EXCEPTIONALLY DIFFICULT LIVELIHOOD OF MANY FAMILIES COMPELS REFUGEES, AN ESTIMATED 250 000 TO 300 000, TO LOOK FOR THEIR HOUSING THEMSELVES. IT IS QUITE CERTAIN THAT MANY OF THEM WILL TRY TO FIND A SOLUTION BY EMIGRATING TO OTHER, PRIMARILY WESTERN, COUNTRIES. ONE OF THE SOLUTIONS IS THE PROVISION OF SHELTERS FOR FAMILY ACCOMMODATION OF REFUGEES. IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE UNHCR, AN ADAPTATION AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT FOR REFUGEE ACCOMMODATION HAS BEEN INITIATED. HOWEVER, THE OVERALL PROJECT PROVIDES FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF ONLY 8 000 PEOPLE. DUE TO THE EXCEPTIONALLY DIFFICULT ECONOMIC SITUATION BROUGHT ABOUT BY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, YUGOSLAVIA IS UNABLE TO FINANCE THIS PROJECT ALONE. IF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FAILS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, A LARGE NUMBER OF REFUGEES WILL BE FORCED TO LOOK FOR THEIR OWN SOLUTIONS, MOST PROBABLY BY EMIGRATING TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

THE SPECIFIC NATURE OF THE REFUGEE POPULATION IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA WILL REQUIRE THAT THE YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES, IN IDENTIFYING THEIR OVERALL NEEDS, ASK FOR ASSISTANCE FROM INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS WITH A VIEW TO ENSURING LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO THEIR PROBLEMS.

THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT WISHES ALSO TO POINT TO THE EXISTENCE OF A LARGE NUMBER OF THE CITIZENS OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, ESTIMATED AT ABOUT 400 000, LIVING AS REFUGEES IN MANY COUNTRIES OF EUROPE. THEIR STAY IN THESE COUNTRIES WILL NECESSITATE THE SOLUTION OF A LARGE NUMBER OF HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS. IN ORDER TO ENSURE THEIR RETURN TO YUGOSLAVIA, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO SEEK SOLUTIONS THROUGH BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION AND THROUGH CONCERTED ACTION.

4. THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IS AWARE THAT THE REFUGEE PROBLEMS WILL BE PRESENT IN THIS REGION LONG AFTER THE CESSATION OF THE ARMED CONFLICTS. BEARING IN MIND THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE LONDON STAGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA AND THE DECISIONS TAKEN IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS DEVOTED TO THE VICTIMS OF THE CONFLICT, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA CALLS ON THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS, IN ADDITION TO THE EMERGENCY RELIEF ASSISTANCE ALREADY PROVIDED AND DRAWING UPON THEIR LONG-STANDING INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD, TO ASSIST THE COMPETENT YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES IN FINDING A LASTING SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF REFUGEES AND OTHER PERSONS AFFECTED BY WAR AND MILITARY OPERATIONS. ACCORDINGLY, THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT INTERPRETS THE DEFINITION OF THE TERM "REFUGEE", EMBODIED IN NUMEROUS UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENTS, IN THE BROADEST POSSIBLE SENSE.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINDING A LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES, THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT CALLS ON THE UNHCR AND, AS APPROPRIATE, OTHER INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, DRAWING UPON THE EXPERIENCES AND RESOURCES OF ALL RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES, TO ENGAGE IN

A) PROVIDING ASSISTANCE FOR THE REINTEGRATION OF REFUGEES REMAINING IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ASSISTANCE IN THE REALIZATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND OTHER LONG-TERM FORMS OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE AND IN DEVISING VARIOUS WAYS OF CONTINUED ACTIVITY IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA. THIS SHOULD INCLUDE ASSISTANCE AIMED AT CONTINUING THE REFUGEE SETTLEMENTS ADAPTATION AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, ASSISTANCE IN MEETING THE ESSENTIAL NEEDS IN THE EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION OF REFUGEES;

B) PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO FACILITATE RETURN TO THEIR HOMES FOR THOSE REFUGEES WHO SO WISH AFTER THE CESSATION OF MILITARY OPERATIONS. HERE WE PARTICULARLY HAVE IN MIND THE ASSISTANCE IN ESTABLISHING NORMAL FLOWS OF LIFE WITHIN THE SO-CALLED "EMERGENCY DEVELOPMENT" PROGRAMME. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT URGES THE UNHCR TO TAKE PART IN THE WORK OF THE EXISTING AND FUTURE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEES FOR THE RETURN OF REFUGEES WHICH WILL DEAL WITH THESE PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, CROATIA, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA AND MACEDONIA.

C) WE ALSO EXPECT THE UNHCR TO TAKE, WITHIN THE OVERALL TREATMENT OF REFUGEES IN YUGOSLAVIA, APPROPRIATE ACTION IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE REFUGEES WHO FULFIL THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS BE GRANTED THE REFUGEE STATUS UNDER THE 1951 CONVENTION ON THE STATUS OF REFUGEES AND THE 1967 PROTOCOL ON THE STATUS OF REFUGEES.

THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BRING THE ATTENTION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS TO THE FACT THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 724 (1991) CONCERNING YUGOSLAVIA DECIDED TO APPROVE IMPORT OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS INTO THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA FOR HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES IF A RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION UNDERTOOK TO SPONSOR IT. SINCE NO ASSOCIATION HAS SO FAR INDICATED ITS INTENTION TO DO SO, WE APPEAL TO NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS PRESENT IN THIS REGION TO HELP THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA ALLEVIATE THE DIFFICULT HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS ALSO THROUGH THESE IMPORTS.

THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IS AWARE THAT A FINAL AND DURABLE SOLUTION OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEM, AS WELL AS MANY OTHER RELATED PROBLEMS, CAN BE FOUND ONLY IN THE CONDITIONS OF PEACE, RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RIGHT TO DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT. THEREFORE, THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT, IN ADDITION TO THE APPEAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO RENDER URGENT AND LONG-TERM ASSISTANCE IN SOLVING DIFFICULT HUMANITARIAN REFUGEE PROBLEMS IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA MENTIONED IN THIS AIDE MEMOIRE, CALLS ALSO ON THIS OCCASION ON ALL INTERNATIONAL FACTORS TO INVEST FURTHER EFFORTS IN ORDER TO OBJECTIVELY ASSESS THE ENTIRE PROBLEM IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA AND ARRIVE AT ITS JUST SOLUTION BY PEACEFUL MEANS. ONLY THIS WOULD BRING PEACE AND PROSPERITY TO ALL PEOPLE IN THIS REGION.

THE LATEST DATA ON THE NUMBER AND STRUCTURE OF REFUGEES FROM THE FORMER SFRY IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA AND THEIR SOCIAL STATUS

1. ACCORDING TO THE DATA OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES OF SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO, ON 10 MAY 1993 THERE WERE 656,089 REFUGEES FROM BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, CROATIA, SLOVENIA AND MACEDONIA IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA (392,629 OF THEM, OR 59.8 PER CENT, FROM BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, ACCOUNTING FOR 6.2 PER CENT OF THE OVERALL POPULATION OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA ESTIMATED AT ABOUT 10.5 MILLION. OUT OF THIS NUMBER, 590,000 IS ACCOMMODATED IN SERBIA (OR 6 PER CENT OF THE OVERALL POPULATION IN SERBIA OF 9,875 967) AND 66,089 IN MONTENEGRO (OR 10.6 PER CENT OF THE OVERALL POPULATION OF MONTENEGRO OF 624,043). 323,000 (56.4 PER CENT) ARE PERSONS WHO FLED FROM BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA TO SERBIA, AND 59,629 (90.2 PER CENT) TO MONTENEGRO.

2. MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO FOUND REFUGE IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA HAVE BEEN ACCOMMODATED IN FAMILIES (96 PER CENT), WHILE ONLY A SMALL FRACTION OF REFUGEES ARE ACCOMMODATED COLLECTIVELY (4 PER CENT). THUS, FROM THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REFUGEES ACCOMMODATED IN SERBIA, 96.9 PER CENT HAVE BEEN ACCOMMODATED WITH FAMILIES AND 3.1 PER CENT ARE IN COLLECTIVE RECEPTION CENTRES, WHILE IN MONTENEGRO 95.1 PER CENT REFUGEES ARE ACCOMMODATED WITH FAMILIES AND 4.9 PER CENT ARE IN COLLECTIVE RECEPTION CENTRES.

3. AS REGARDS THE NATIONAL COMPOSITION OF THE REFUGEES, 84.2 PER CENT OF THE REFUGEES ACCOMMODATED IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA ARE OF SERBIAN NATIONALITY (497,000); 6.3 PER CENT ARE OF MUSLIM NATIONALITY (37,000);

1.5 PER CENT ARE CROATS (9,000) AND 8 PER CENT ARE OF OTHER NATIONALITIES (HUNGARIAN, ALBANIAN, ETC.), THAT IS 47 000. IN MONTENEGRO, REFUGE HAS BEEN FOUND BY 39.9 PER CENT REFUGEES OF SERBIAN NATIONALITY (25,744), 30.3 PER CENT OF MONTENEGRINS (20,000) AND 30.8 PER CENT OF MUSLIMS (20,345).IN THIS CONNECTION IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERLINE THAT ALL THESE PERSONS ARE TREATED EQUALLY IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR NATIONAL ORIGIN.

4. FROM THE ENTIRE REFUGEE POPULATION ACCOMMODATED IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, 301,573 ARE WOMEN ABOVE THE AGE OF 18 (46 PER CENT), WHILE MEN ABOVE THE AGE OF 18 ACCOUNT FOR 66.329 (10.1 PER CENT). 261.000 (47.6 PER CENT) WOMEN REFUGEES OF LEGAL AGE HAVE FOUND REFUGE IN SERBIA AND 20.573 (31.4 PER CENT) IN MONTENEGRO, WHILE THE MEN OF LEGAL AGE ACCOUNT FOR 58,000 (9.8 PER CENT) IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA AND 8.329 (12.6 PER CENT) IN THE REPUBLIC OF MONTENEGRO.

5. OUT OF THE OVERALL REFUGEES POPULATION ACCOMMODATED IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, THERE ARE 288,187 CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18, I.E. 43.9 PER CENT (18,524 UNDER THE AGE OF 1; 94,826 BETWEEN THE AGE OF 1 AND 7 AND 173,837 BETWEEN AGE 7 AND 18). IN THE TERRITORY OF SERBIA, THERE ARE 251,000 CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18, I.E. 42.5 PER CENT (17,000 UNDER THE AGE OF 1; 85,000 BETWEEN 1 AND 7 AND 149,000 BETWEEN 7 AND 18) AND IN THE TERRITORY OF MONTENEGRO 37,187 CHILDREN IN THIS AGE GROUP, I.E. 56.3 PER CENT (2.524 UNDER THE AGE OF 1; 9,826 BETWEEN THE AGE OF 1 AND 7, AND 24,837 BETWEEN THE AGE OF 7 AND 18).

6. AS REGARDS THE VULNERABLE CATEGORIES OF REFUGEES, SERBIA HAS ACCOMMODATED 1,200 CHILDREN WITHOUT PARENTAL CARE, 10,000 BABIES BORN IN EXILE, 50,000 ELDERLY AND INFIRM PERSONS, 250 PATIENTS ON DIALYSIS AND 6,000 DIABETIC PATIENTS (DATA FOR MONTENEGRO ARE UNAVAILABLE).

7. THE DATA ON THE OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE OF REFUGEES ARE UNAVAILABLE. ACCORDING TO SOME INFORMATION, THE STRUCTURE OF REFUGEES FROM THE WAR-AFFECTED AREAS OF THE FORMER SFRY WHO HAVE FOUND REFUGE IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA IS THE FOLLOWING: 0.43 PER CENT FARMERS, 3.3 PER CENT MINERS AND WORKERS IN INDUSTRY, 1.6 PER CENT SALESMEN, 1.3 PER CENT ADMINISTRATIVE WORKERS, 0.06 PER CENT MANAGERS, 3.4 PER CENT PROFESSIONALS AND ARTISTS, 0.2 PER CENT PEOPLE OF OTHER OCCUPATIONS, 2.7 PER CENT PENSIONERS AND DISABLED PERSONS, 3.9 PER CENT HOUSEWIVES, 27.5 PER CENT PUPILS AND STUDENTS, 0.2 PER CENT DEPENDENTS AND 55.2 PER CENT PERSONS UNKNOWN UNRECORDED OCCUPATION.

FOR MONTENEGRO, THE DATA ON THE STRUCTURE OF REFUGEES ARE UNAVAILABLE. IT IS RELIABLY KNOWN HOWEVER THAT AMONG REFUGEES THERE ARE DOCTORS, JURISTS, PROFESSORS, TEACHERS, ECONOMISTS, ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, POLITICOLOGISTS, PSYCHOLOGISTS, NURSES, WORKERS, FARMERS, ETC.

8. WE DO NOT POSSESS DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STATUS OF THESE PERSONS BEFORE THEY FOUND REFUGE IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, FLEEING THE HORRORS OF WAR AND OTHER DANGERS AND INSECURITY. HOWEVER, IT IS RELIABLY KNOWN THAT ON THE WHOLE, THE REFUGEES FROM CROATIA WERE BETTER-OFF THAN THE REFUGEES FROM BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ECONMIC AND SOCIAL STATUS OF PERSONS WHO FOUND REFUGE IN THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA, IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THESE PERSONS HAVE FLED THEIR HOMES, MOST FREQUENTLY WITHOUT ANY RESOURCES, AND ARE THEREFORE TREATED IN THE SAME WAY AS PERSONS IN NEED OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE (PERSONS WITHOUT ANY MEANS AND POSSIBILITIES OF SUPPORTING THEMSELVES, AND THEREFORE IN NEED OF ADEQUATE FORMS OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT). FOR THIS REASON, THESE PERSONS, THE FAMILIES IN WHICH THEY ARE ACCOMMODATED AND THE INSTITUTIONS IN WHICH THEY ARE ACCOMMODATED COLLECTIVELY, AS WELL AS HEALTH INSTITUTIONS ARE PROVIDED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE SOCIETY, APPROPRIATE ORGANIZED ASSISTANCE IN MONEY OR KIND (FOOD, CLOTHES, FOOTWEAR, MEDICINE, MEDICAL MATERIAL, ETC.). IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT ALL THE REFUGEES ARE ACCORDED EQUAL TREATMENT, REGARDLESS OF THEIR NATIONAL ORIGIN, BUT DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF REFUGEE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AND THEIR NATURAL STRUCTURE (CHILDREN, ELDERLY AND THE SICK, ETC.) AND THAT THEY ARE ALL PROVIDED FULL HEALTH CARE.

IT SHOULD BE ADDED THAT A SMALL NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FR OF YUGOSLAVIA HAVE FOUND USUALLY A TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT IN THE SOCIAL OR PRIVATE SECTOR AND THAT DURING THAT TIME, THEY ARE NOT ENTITLED TO THE ABOVE REFUGEE BENEFITS, PROVIDED THEIR INCOMES ARE SUFFICIENT TO COVER THEIR OWN AND THEIR FAMILY'S MINIMUM NEEDS.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/208
14 June 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Forty-eighth session
Item 116 of the preliminary list*

SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ESTONIA AND LATVIA

Letter dated 11 June 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement dated 4 June 1993, by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation relating to the adoption by Estonia of the discriminatory Act on elections to organs of local self-government.

I should be grateful if you would have the statement circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 116 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Y. VORONTSOV

* A/48/50.

93-34695 (E) 150693 150693

150693

/...

ANNEX

Statement dated 4 June 1993 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

On 3 June 1993 the President of the Republic of Estonia promulgated a discriminatory Act on elections to organs of local self-government, adopted on 19 May 1993 by the Parliament of Estonia. The Act deprives non-citizens in Estonia of the right to be elected to such organs. This is yet another glaring manifestation of the consequences of the arbitrary withholding of Estonian citizenship from the Russian-speaking population of the Republic in February 1992. It is a further reminder to ethnic Russians that they are aliens in Estonia, part of that one third of the country's population whose rights are determined by the prevailing balance of political forces in Parliament.

It is of a piece that those inhabitants of Estonia who had previously been denied the right to Estonian citizenship have now also been categorically deprived of the right to participate actively in the public life of the State in which they reside, by participating in local self-government, even in those areas where they constitute an overall majority of the population.

It is worth noting that the Act was adopted immediately after Estonia's admission to membership of the Council of Europe. Furthermore, its adoption was deferred until the question of Estonia's membership had been decided. It can now be seen how the Estonian side regards the commitments which it has entered into as a result of its accession to the Council of Europe.

Regrettably, the numerous appeals addressed to the Parliament and the President of the Republic of Estonia by the country's inhabitants, public organizations and organs of local self-government have been ignored. This new step serves to heighten national tension and inter-ethnic divisiveness in Estonia.

Once again, disregard has been shown for international commitments, such as those under the Treaty on the basis for inter-State relations with the Russian Federation of 12 January 1991 and those in the area of human rights. The process of normalizing Russian-Estonian relations has been rendered more difficult. Who stands to gain from all this?

UNITED NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/209
S/25937
14 June 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Items 34, 35, 42, 75, 86, 92 and 149
of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS
ON THE USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS
WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY
INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE
ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS
OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF
THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
COOPERATION
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE
CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON
THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE
ORGANIZATION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 14 June 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the Arabic text of the final statement issued on the outcome of the work of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Damascus Declaration States at their meeting held at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 12 and 13 June 1993.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 34, 35, 42, 75, 86, 92 and 149 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad J. SAMHAN
Permanent Representative

* A/48/50.

93-34879 (E) 150693 150693

150693

/...

ANNEX

Final statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Damascus Declaration States on their meeting held at Abu Dhabi on 12 and 13 June 1993

Their Highnesses and Their Excellencies the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Damascus Declaration States held their 7th meeting on Saturday and Sunday, 22 and 23 Dhu'lhijjah A.H. 1413, corresponding to 12 and 13 June 1993, at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Rashid Abudllah al-Noaimi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates, and in the presence of:

His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain;

His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia;

His Excellency Mr. Farouk al-Shara', Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic;

His Excellency Yousef Bin al-Alawi Bin Abdulla, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Oman;

His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassem Bin Jabr Al Thani, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar;

His Excellency Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait;

His Excellency Mr. Amre Moussa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Ministers reviewed the developments in the regional and international situation and noted with extreme concern that the Iraqi regime was continuing to procrastinate in the implementation of fundamental aspects of the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression against Kuwait by its refusal to release detained and imprisoned Kuwaitis and nationals of third States, its refusal to be bound by the decisions of the United Nations technical commission to demarcate the boundary between the two countries, its failure to implement the Security Council resolutions concerning payment of compensation due by reason of its legal liability for the damage arising out of its aggression and its procrastination in returning all Kuwaiti property and in eliminating all weapons of mass destruction.

The Ministers condemn the Iraqi regime's continued issuance of hostile statements and the increase of threats against Kuwait and the States of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which present a threat to security and stability in the region. They affirm their full support for Kuwait in confronting these threats. They also express their satisfaction at the conclusion of the work of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission. The Ministers welcome

Security Council resolution 833 (1993), which gave final endorsement to the conclusions of the Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission, guaranteeing the inviolability of the international boundary between the two countries under the provisions of Chapter VII of the Charter, because that resolution constitutes a genuine contribution to the promotion of security and stability in the region. The Ministers reaffirm their wholehearted desire for the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq and place on the Iraqi regime full responsibility for the suffering to which the Iraqi people is exposed as a result of refusal to implement the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression against Kuwait.

The Ministers also reviewed the situation of relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this connection, they state that the development of these relations is required by the principles of Islamic brotherhood and necessitates on the part of Iran respect for the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and refraining from threats to stability and peace in the region. They have great hopes that this may be achieved in the future, which would serve the interests of all. The Ministers reaffirm their absolute support and backing for the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over its three islands, the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, and reiterate their full support for all peaceful measures and means that may be adopted by the United Arab Emirates to recover its sovereignty over its three islands.

The Ministers observed with interest the desire of the two States to engage in further dialogue to deal with this problem.

The Ministers affirm their full solidarity and absolute support for the measures taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to ensure the safety of pilgrims to the Holy City of Makkah and to enable them to perform the obligation of the pilgrimage in safety, comfort and tranquillity, in accordance with the teachings of the Islamic religion.

The Ministers considered the developments in the peace process in the Middle East and reaffirmed the commitment of their States to support the peace negotiations aimed at arriving at a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 425 (1978), the principle of land for peace, the achievement of a complete Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, the occupied Syrian Golan and southern Lebanon, the guaranteeing of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to self-determination and its establishment of its independent State on its national territory, in order to guarantee security and stability in the region.

The Ministers express their appreciation for the efforts being made by the two sponsors of the Peace Conference and call on the United States in particular to play the role of full partner and to develop it in an effective and objective way so as to ensure full and faithful adherence to the foundations, principles and authority of the Peace Conference, in particular the principle of land for peace and the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The Ministers regard all of Israel's continued practices and acts of aggression against the Palestinian people and the Arab occupants of the Palestinian and Arab occupied territories as a flagrant violation of international law, the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the principles and authority of the peace process and as a genuine threat to chances of success for this process, for which Israel bears responsibility vis-à-vis the international community. They also call on the Security Council to take practical and immediate measures for the implementation of resolution 799 (1992) for the return of the Palestinian deportees to their homes.

The Ministers welcome the coordination between the Arab States participating in the bilateral peace talks at their meeting held at Amman on 6 June 1992, with the participation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and the agreement to intensify contacts with the two sponsors of the peace process, with the aim of ensuring their serious intervention to achieve an essential advance in the talks.

The Ministers are following with extreme concern recent developments in Somalia that have become critical as a result of the attack on United Nations forces by certain Somali fighting groups and their failure to abide by the agreement concluded between the Somali groups. The Ministers also appeal to these groups to place the national interest first and abide by Security Council resolutions and United Nations efforts to ensure the achievement of security and stability in Somalia.

The Ministers followed with deep concern the continuing grievous human tragedy of the people of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina due to the continued evil aggression by Serbian irregular forces, supported by Serbia and Montenegro, in violation of United Nations instruments and international law and in defiance of international legitimacy.

The Ministers vehemently condemn the continued Serbian aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the perpetration by the Serbian forces of the most repugnant crimes of genocide, ethnic cleansing, which is a crime against humanity, arbitrary killings, organized rape, terrorism, displacement of persons, starvation and destruction of houses and places of worship. The Ministers urge the Security Council to take all necessary measures under Article 42 of Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, including the lifting of the arms embargo imposed on the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina so as to enable it to exercise its right of self-defence and resort to military force, in order to restore international peace and security and to compel the forces of aggression to abide by the resolutions of international legitimacy, bar any reward of the aggressors by preventing changes in the demographic composition or territorial gains and to compel the Serbian forces to withdraw and respect the independence, sovereignty and unity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In this connection, the Ministers welcome the adoption by the Security Council of its resolution endorsing the use of military force to bring down Serbian aircraft violating the no-fly zone in the airspace of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, regarding this as a step in the right direction. The Ministers also express their satisfaction at the adoption last February of a Security Council resolution for the establishment of an international tribunal

for the prosecution of persons responsible for the crimes against humanity committed in Bosnia, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions. The Ministers urge the international community to tighten the sanctions and to increase the pressure on Serbia and Montenegro.

The Ministers welcomed the independence of the State of Eritrea and wish every success to this Eritrean leadership and prosperity to the Eritrean people. They hope that the independent State of Eritrea will be a positive addition and an effective factor for the establishment of security and stability in the region.

The Ministers expressed their thanks and appreciation to the Government and people of the United Arab Emirates for hosting this meeting and for the warm reception and generous hospitality that they received.

The Ministers welcomed the kind offer extended by the Syrian Arab Republic to host the next meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the eight States in December 1993.

UNITED NATIONS

A E

General Assembly
Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/210
E/1993/89
18 June 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC/CHINESE/
ENGLISH/FRENCH/
RUSSIAN/SPANISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Item 115 (b) of the preliminary list*
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
Substantive session of 1993
Item 4 (d) of the provisional agenda**
COORDINATION QUESTIONS: QUESTION OF A UNITED NATIONS YEAR FOR TOLERANCE

Question of a United Nations year for tolerance

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, pursuant to Assembly resolution 47/124 of 18 December 1992, the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) containing his suggestions on the observance of the United Nations year for tolerance (see annex). Attached to the report of the Director-General are a draft declaration on tolerance (appendix I), information on the activities of UNESCO in its fields of competence (appendix II) and decision 5.4.3 of the UNESCO Executive Board (appendix III).

---

* A/48/50.

** E/1993/100.

ANNEX

Report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the question of a United Nations year for tolerance

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The idea of making 1995 a year for tolerance was put forward by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) at its twenty-sixth session, in its resolution 5.6, in which the Director-General was invited, in particular, to examine, in consultation with the United Nations, the appropriate arrangements for declaring 1995, which is the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO, United Nations year for tolerance, and to prepare a declaration on tolerance that might be discussed and possibly adopted on that occasion.

2. The consultations with the United Nations led to the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 47/124, on 18 December 1992. The Assembly welcomed the proposal and requested the Director-General of UNESCO to prepare, in cooperation with other interested organizations, his suggestions on the observance of the United Nations year for tolerance and to submit them to the Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council.

3. In pursuance of that resolution, the Division of Philosophy and Ethics of UNESCO has been made responsible for coordinating the activities of the organization and for preparing a document on the events planned for the year, and a decision has been taken to set up an intersectoral working group. Owing to the very nature of the issue and the diversity of the fields of knowledge and action that it involves, all areas of the programme will play a part in the task of preparation and implementation, for which the experience and competence of other United Nations organizations will also be needed.

4. The year 1995, year for tolerance, will also mark the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. The aim will be not merely to celebrate the anniversary of the United Nations, but also to reacquaint ourselves with the reasons that presided over its birth. The year 1995 is above all the fiftieth anniversary of a resolution solemnly adopted by the peoples of the United Nations (they were united by that joint resolution) so that the events which had "brought untold sorrow to mankind" (Charter of the United Nations), during "the great and terrible war [...] made possible by the denial of the democratic principles of the dignity, equality and mutual respect of men, and by the propagation, in their place, through ignorance and prejudice, of the doctrine of the inequality of men and races" (Constitution of UNESCO), might never recur.

5. The Secretary-General of the United Nations expresses the hope, in "An Agenda for Peace" (A/47/277-S/24111), that the present phase of renewal of this Organization should be complete by 1995. UNESCO can play the role incumbent upon it by launching, through other United Nations organizations, the Member States, the intellectual community and international public opinion, a movement of analysis and discussion on the deep-seated implications of the reorganization of political patterns, the transformation of ways of life, the worsening of

economic disparities, the great strides made in the scientific field and the social and cultural shock-waves set off by those upheavals. The practice of tolerance is all the more indispensable in an interdependent and more democratic world, where differences are freely expressed.

II. DIRECTIONS CHOSEN

6. It should be noted first of all that, while the concept of tolerance is controversial, the practice of tolerance is not. In the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations the stated goal is indeed "to practise tolerance" for the maintenance of peace, justice, respect for human rights and the promotion of social progress. Tolerance can exist in its most active form only in a setting in which human dignity and civil liberties are respected.

7. The appeal for tolerance made by the Director-General on 8 February 1993 at Los Angeles was addressed explicitly to all the world's heads of State and Government, to ministers and officials responsible for education at all levels, to mayors of all cities, towns and villages, to all teachers, to religious communities, to journalists and to all parents.

8. The purpose of that appeal is to ensure, primarily, that tolerance becomes an attitude inherent in the mind of each and every individual, but also that it is incorporated in the provisions governing social and political interactions which regulate and shape the bonds linking individuals. The issues therefore have practical applications in the fields of international law, social institutions, justice, education, culture and communication, and they all converge on the key issue of the ethics of shared responsibility.

9. Taking this as a starting-point, the activities of UNESCO in the context of the year for tolerance can be organized on the following lines:

(a) To renew international agreement on tolerance using the founding principles of the United Nations system as a basis. Such agreement might take the form of a solemn declaration, as suggested by the General Assembly. A meeting of international experts, held at Istanbul on 16 and 17 April 1993, has prepared a preliminary draft declaration on tolerance for submission to the Assembly (appendix I). Drafted as it has been by jurists, philosophers, religious representatives and sociologists, it should enlist the support of Member States. It is important that this text receive extensive media coverage and that the signatories of the United Nations Charter - i.e., the Governments themselves - be responsible for giving it a high profile;

(b) To foster broad participation by individuals, institutions and States by launching a common debate on the theoretical framework of a new, universally accepted concept of tolerance, and on the means of reinforcing it in practical terms within social systems;

(c) To promote tolerance through education by pointing out the key role of a type of education based on the exchange and free flow of ideas, and to support specific measures fostering the shaping of free and open-minded individuals capable of listening and being receptive to the opinions of others;

(d) To reinforce communication and freedom of expression by contributing to the maintenance or the creation of communication systems conducive to the exchange and free flow of information and opinions; to urge the media to combat discrimination and marginalization, working on the assumption that tolerance can exist in its most active form only in a setting in which human dignity and civil liberties are respected;

(e) To facilitate the transition to a culture of tolerance by reinforcing mutually beneficial multilateral cultural and scientific projects.

III. PRACTICAL PROCEDURES

10. The proclamation of international years is governed by Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980, which lays down criteria and procedures concerning proposals for international years. The procedures prescribed by the Economic and Social Council to regulate the proclamation and organization of international years may be summarized as follows:

(a) There should be a period of two years between the proclamation of an international year and the beginning of that year;

(b) Proposals for international years should, before the proclamation of the years, be brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council to enable it, in so far as the proposals fall within its competence, to advise on them;

(c) A final decision on a proposal for an international year should be taken by the General Assembly, not earlier than one full year after the introduction of the proposal, thus allowing all Member States and competent organs to express their views on the subject;

(d) An international year should not be proclaimed until all the necessary arrangements have been made, particularly as regards financing, which should in principle be based on voluntary contributions;

(e) Measures and activities at the international level should complement and support measures and activities undertaken at the national level; there should be appropriate mechanisms for the year at the national level;

(f) There should be effective coordination of the activities of all United Nations organizations and bodies concerned;

(g) An international year should not lead to a proliferation of posts in the Secretariat and expenditure should normally be met through the regular budgets; any special secretariats established for the celebration of international years should be dissolved immediately upon the conclusion of those years.

11. The action of UNESCO within the framework of the implementation of the programme for the United Nations year for tolerance is described in appendix II. It will be the responsibility of the intersectoral working group to coordinate its activities.

12. To that end, a synoptic timetable will be drawn up, covering all activities to be carried out as part of the year for tolerance by all UNESCO sectors and units, including the International Bureau of Education. The intersectoral group will also be required to give consideration to the complementary nature of the various activities and to ways of enhancing their results.

13. To date, the Director-General and the secretariat of UNESCO have requested other organizations within the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional offices to submit contributions suitable for inclusion in a synoptic document outlining all the activities to be carried out in the course of the year.

14. The Director-General will subsequently, through the national commissions, invite all Member States, as part of the observance of the international year for tolerance, to implement projects promoting a spirit of intercommunity coexistence and inter-religious and intercultural dialogue, by seeking appropriate funding for these actions.

IV. CONCLUSION

15. If it considers it appropriate, the Executive Board may wish to adopt the following decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined the Director-General's report on the proclamation of the United Nations year for tolerance (141 EX/17),

2. Recalling resolution 5.6 adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-sixth session,

3. Takes note of resolution 47/124 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

4. Invites the Director-General to continue his efforts, in close cooperation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and Member States, in order to draw up a plan of action for 1995, United Nations year for tolerance;

5. Endorses the preliminary draft declaration on tolerance drawn up by the meeting of international experts, held at Istanbul on 16 and 17 April 1993, and invites the Director-General to continue to conduct broad-based international consultations with a view to drafting a text which will be submitted to the United Nations General Assembly for official adoption at the beginning of the year;

6. Also invites the Director-General to submit suggestions regarding the celebration of the year for tolerance to the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council.

APPENDIX I

Draft declaration on tolerance*

As the past shows only too well, no society, whatever its system of values, can lay claim to the virtue of being intrinsically tolerant; conversely, no society can be accused of being always intolerant.

People need their beliefs. Today, however, a new form of solidarity is required, a life more closely bound up with others, and we must therefore take greater care than ever before to ensure that our convictions do not lead to patterns of behaviour that exclude others. It is essential to understand that, while all are equal in dignity, all are different in terms of their talents, convictions and beliefs, and these differences are a factor of enrichment for every individual and for civilization as a whole, provided that all citizens are assured of opportunities for political, cultural, economic and social dialogue and participation at all levels of public life.

Herein lies the challenge for the present and the future.

We are aware that we all have a responsibility for a better planetary order, that involvement for the sake of human rights, freedom, justice, peace and the preservation of the earth is possible and necessary; that our different religious and cultural traditions must not prevent our common involvement in opposing all forms of inhumanity and working for greater humaneness; that the principles expressed in this Declaration can be affirmed by all humans with ethical convictions religiously grounded or not.

After the end of the cold war, humanity has entered a new phase of its history. Humanity today possesses sufficient economic, cultural and spiritual resources to introduce a better planetary order. New ethnic, national, social and religious tensions, however, threaten the peaceful building of a better world. Our time has experienced greater technological progress than ever existed before, and yet we are faced with the fact that world-wide poverty, hunger, death of children, unemployment, misery and the destruction of nature have not abated but increased. Many people are threatened with economic ruin, social disarray, political marginalization and national collapse.

In such a critical situation humanity needs not only political programmes and actions, but also a vision of a peaceful living together of human beings, ethnic and ethical groupings, and religions; it needs hopes, goals, ideals, standards. Yet these have slipped from the hands of people all over the world. This is especially true in the contemporary world, because where a modern State effectively guarantees freedom of conscience, it needs a common endeavour to seek values to implement convictions and norms that are valid for all humans regardless of their social origin, skin colour, language or religion.

---

* Adopted at the meeting of international experts held at Istanbul on 16 and 17 April 1993.

We all know that, now as before, all over the world, women and men are treated inhumanely or in a degrading way. They are robbed of their freedom and their opportunities; their human rights are trampled underfoot; their human dignity is disregarded. But might does not make right. In the face of all inhumanity our convictions demand that every human being must be treated humanely.

That means that every human being without distinction of sex, age, race, language, religion, political view, or national or social origin - possesses an inalienable and untouchable dignity. Everyone, individuals as well as the State, is therefore obliged to honour this dignity and guarantee its effective protection. Humans as individuals or communities must always be the subjects of rights; they must be ends, never mere objects of commercialization and industrialization in economics, politics and media, in research institutes and industrial undertakings. Moreover, in our age, no human being, no social class, no interest group, no power cartel and likewise no State stands beyond good and evil.

The world as it stands is not perfect and, in all probability, never will be. Violence, death and intolerance can only make it a more cruel and a darker place. There is no alternative to tolerance, which, while by no means solving all the problems, can enable us to tackle them in a spirit of open-mindedness, progress and peace.

The following conditions must be fulfilled if these requirements are to be met: tolerance on the part of each and every one means an attitude devoid of arrogance in relations between the generations, the sexes, individuals and communities, and between the human race and nature.

Educational programmes and systems must be developed in order to prepare future generations for life in our changing multicultural societies.

Every individual must receive at the earliest possible age the kind of intellectual training that will provide the basis for free, modest and responsible judgement. School textbooks must be purged of prejudice and resentment with regard to other peoples. A new approach must be introduced to the ethics and values embodied by the various religions. Thus we shall have laid essential foundations for the establishment of a culture of tolerance.

In the sphere of communication and the mass media, Governments, institutions and individuals, becoming aware of their vast powers, must assume the responsibilities incumbent on them for shaping people's attitudes in present-day societies and must measure the impact of their message on individual and group behaviour.

Different peoples must be encouraged to learn about one another through contemporary forms of artistic expression in order to avoid tenacious prejudices and ingrained stereotypes.

All pleas for tolerance will remain a dead letter unless equitable representation for all is secured at both the national and the international level, unless opportunities for free discussion are established, and unless

arbitration and review bodies are set up to ensure the peaceful resolution of disputes.

We must therefore open up paths leading to new forms of solidarity and to hitherto unexplored opportunities for words and action.

Tolerance must be the new name of peace.

APPENDIX II

Activities of UNESCO in its fields of competence

A. Celebration: renewing world agreement on tolerance

1. Tolerance is not an attitude of neutrality or indifference, but a resolute standpoint which derives its meaning from what lies beyond it, namely, what is intolerable. The celebration of 1995 should provide an opportunity to rediscover why tolerance exists, why the United Nations system exists, and forcefully to reaffirm their underlying principles at a time when post-war political systems are in a state of transformation or disintegration.

2. Religious leaders should also be mobilized to proclaim together, transcending differences of dogma and the rise of fanaticism, the common message of religions.

3. Another question concerns the role of intellectuals in new thinking about the foundations of tolerance. Is a universal form of tolerance conceivable?

B. Encouraging broad participation by individuals, institutions and Member States

Selective analyses and recommendations

4. A series of studies in 1994-1995, in different regions, with the assistance of the regional offices of UNESCO on the theme "the multiple origins of intolerance" (ethnic, political, social, economic and cultural).

5. The organization of a series of workshops on the theme "religions and tolerance". The workshops might be organized in cooperation with the relevant institutions. This series of workshops will be followed by the organization of a large summing-up meeting on the theme "inter-religious dialogue, tolerance and the peaceful settlement of conflicts".

6. The organization at regular intervals (quarterly) of discussion groups on ways and means of strengthening tolerance within the workings of the social structure. These groups, which will be organized in cooperation with the competent non-governmental organizations (the International Social Science Council, the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies, and organizations representing the major philosophical and religious movements) and the concerned United Nations bodies (the World Health Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labour Organisation) and national commissions, should yield concrete recommendations for use by occupational branches.

Mobilization of the intellectual community and sensitization of the general public

7. Mobilization of research and intellectual cooperation on matters of intercommunity and intercultural coexistence and ways of fostering a spirit of tolerance. Regional meetings will, in particular, be aimed at examining the

causes and the new forms of expression of violence and discrimination, and at formulating recommendations for social actors and decision makers. It is planned to hold a conference on tolerance in the United States of America in 1995, in cooperation with the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and the United Nations. The inaugural symposium of the new International Centre for Human Sciences at Byblos, Lebanon, in 1995, will also be devoted to tolerance.

8. Activities to encourage behaviour which expresses solidarity and responsibility, especially among young people, by involving them in the defence of the values underlying international action, in the context of problems which concern them (such as the mobile Charter in the context of the One against AIDS operation, in cooperation with the UNESCO Clubs and Associated Schools).

9. To promote awareness in individuals and the public at large about the dangers posed by the resurgence of intolerance in everyday life, exhibitions and various publications for the general public have been planned.

C. Promotion of tolerance through education

10. Activities will be aimed at promoting values related to intercultural and international understanding, tolerance and dialogue. Those values will be emphasized in the implementation of an international project to develop guidelines for intercultural/multicultural education, including regional campaigns in secondary schools to foster intercultural understanding.

11. The objectives of the year for tolerance will occupy a central place in the preparation of the 1994 International Conference on Education, concerning the promotion and perspectives of education for international understanding. Particular attention will be given to problems of tolerance in considering the revision of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace, and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, and during the preparation of a declaration on international education at the 1994 Conference.

12. Within the framework of the Associated Schools Project, special awards for tolerance will be a focal point in a number of activities, such as the preparation of pilot teaching material on conflict situations; a subregional post-conflict children's forum on peace, democracy and cultural identity; and emergency aid campaigns, for instance through UNESCO Clubs.

13. Education for refugees is to be considered among actions against intolerance. Assistance is currently being supplied to Cambodia, Somalia and the countries of the former Yugoslavia, all of which are suffering emergencies due to intolerance.

14. Ideas concerning tolerance are developed in several current and projected activities of the International Bureau of Education, particularly in follow-up activities to the forty-third session of the International Conference on Education (theme: "the contribution of education to cultural development") and activities associated with preparations for the forty-fourth session of the Conference (October 1994; theme: "appraisal and perspectives of education for international understanding").

15. At its forty-fourth session the Conference will adopt a policy declaration signed by ministers of education and reflecting (1) general agreement to foster national plans focusing on the promotion of tolerance, understanding and respect for all without distinction in respect of race, religion or political opinion, and (2) a condemnation of all manifestations of xenophobia, racism and other forms of violence.

16. The 1993 International Yearbook of Education (vol. XLIV) will enlarge on a number of contributions, including some relating to tolerance that were made at the forty-third session of the Conference.

17. A comparative study of the role of education in promoting cultural and international understanding by concentrating on the development of the individual, carried out in collaboration with the World Council of Comparative Education Societies and other non-governmental organizations, is scheduled for publication in early 1994.

18. The International Bureau of Education will join the World Council of Comparative Education Societies and the University of Pittsburgh in the execution of a joint project entitled "Educating the individual for a durable peace: challenges and commitments in changing social conditions".

19. In 1994 a special issue of Educational Innovation and Information will be devoted to the development of syllabuses for teaching on tolerance.

D. Strengthening communication and freedom of expression

20. The strategy in the field of communication for strengthening the practice of tolerance is based on three general lines of action.

21. The first is to wage war on all forms of discrimination and marginalization by working on activities aimed at providing minorities with better access to systems of communication. This general line of action encompasses activities for giving minorities greater access to information and helping them to participate more in communication systems. Several types of action could be taken:

(a) Development and support of the endogenous production of programmes and material reflecting the national or local socio-cultural environment;

Proposed action:

(i) The endogenous production of films and video tapes, on inter-ethnic and intercultural themes, aimed at promoting better understanding between individuals of the same society and those of different societies;

(ii) The institution of a UNESCO prize for the best artistic or documentary production promoting values or practices of tolerance and produced with local resources;

(b) Strengthening of activities on behalf of target groups with a view to reflecting their real participation and improved integration in development;

Proposed action:

(i) The creation or strengthening of alternative media such as community, rural or target-based radio, television and press organs in order to enable groups such as ethnic refugees, migrants, the handicapped and other minorities to participate more effectively in information systems;

(ii) Action to help women play a more active part in the processes of communication and, more generally, in social, economic, political and cultural life, through:

the strengthening of networks of women working in communication;

the development of vocational training;

the organization of an international symposium on women and decision-making in the media.

22. The second general line of action is to strengthen freedom of information and expression by promoting dialogue with the international professional community. This line of action relates to activities aimed at promoting freedom of information and expression through existing networks of associations of communicators and professional media organizations that "watch over" the observance of the fundamental freedoms, especially the pluralism and independence of the media.

Proposed action:

Strengthening the machinery of cooperation with national, regional and international non-governmental organizations working in the field of the freedom of information, such as the International Federation of Newspaper Publishers, the International Federation of Journalists, the International Press Institute, Article 19, Index and Censorship, the West African Journalists' Union, Reporters without Borders and the Committee to Protect Journalists, through:

seminars on the promotion of pluralist and independent media in Latin America and in the Arab States;

an IFEX clearing-house to monitor observance of the freedom of information through an electronic network among non-governmental organizations and the establishment of regional media centres;

making diplomatic approaches to Governments, in concert with non-governmental organizations, when freedom of information comes under attack (by the harassment of journalists, seizing of newspapers, etc.).

23. The third general line of action is to further international understanding and mutual knowledge by strengthening both the machinery for cooperation and exchanges of information among communication professionals and databases and networks. The aim of this line of action is to develop "communication for peace", that is to create a "peace consciousness" for the purpose of preventing armed conflict or, in wartime, to set up a movement towards reconciliation.

Proposed action:

(a) Communication as a means of prevention of war and preservation of a peace consciousness: the subjects of human rights and tolerance will be introduced into the professional curricula of journalists and students of communication - including the curricula of UNESCO chairs in communication;

(b) Communication, a tool for the resolution of armed conflicts of an ethnic, cultural and social nature: action will be taken to prevail upon the major international information media, and through them the public, to oppose recognized cases of collective incitement to racial hatred. As part of UNESCO support for United Nations peace-keeping and peace-consolidation missions, concerted action with professional media organizations will be taken to help local media whose independence and concern for objectivity are under threat or, where appropriate, help establish such media in areas of armed conflict or in the immediate aftermath of war.

24. In addition, the UNESCO Publishing Office intends to issue La Tolérance, the French version of an anthology containing passages from over 200 authors from all periods and from various cultures. It is working on the preparation of an anthology of authors from the former Yugoslavia entitled Suis-je le gardien de mon frère? It is a work of great ethical and literary value that appeals for tolerance and will be produced in cooperation with International PEN in the collection of representative works.

E. Easing the transition towards a culture of tolerance

25. The promotion of a culture of tolerance is based on a two-pronged approach: dismantling the machinery by which exclusions are generated and highlighting the common values that draw human groups closer together.

26. It is common knowledge that ethnic and other stereotypes occur repeatedly and almost automatically on the basis of the observation and indiscriminate amalgamation of differences. The "other" is not like us: he or she does not look or act as we do, eat the same food, or follow the same conventions of dress. These are only some of the most immediately noticeable characteristics of cultural diversity in the anthropological sense, which covers the spiritual, religious, philosophical and behaviourial aspects of collective and individual value systems.

27. A basic education programme in tolerance should begin with the comparative study of rudimentary values. Such a study could consist in inventorying every foodstuff that is authorized or forbidden and considered healthy or unhealthy, good or bad, using an analytical grid featuring religious, regional, social and other parameters. The results could serve as a starting-point for an approach

challenging systems of reference that are rarely given a second thought. In short, before asking ourselves whether or how we will be tolerant, we should determine whether or how we ourselves are tolerated.

28. The purpose of learning about social and cultural practices is not to promote greater ethnic differentiation of cultures: in fact, the observance of cultural specificities, when elevated into a principle, is most likely to lead to an insidious form of racism.

29. It would be appropriate to develop further the research that in 1974 led UNESCO to publish an anthology on tolerance by inventorying the symbolic wealth shared by all of humankind. This research should be applied to its programmes concerning democracy, human rights and peace as an endeavour to perceive the main lines of cultural convergence transcending the behavioural differences that harden into ethnic or other stereotypes.

30. The strategy of recapturing an ideal of tolerance should not be limited to a few "flashpoints". It is of relevance to all countries, and UNESCO should not dwell overmuch on the existence of a small minority of countries (10 or 12) reputed to be "integrated" by political scientists. Although special programmes can be adapted to specific environments, it is of the utmost urgency to apply a more general form of action to large cities, which themselves are hotbeds of intolerance and whose suburbs and shanty towns are ghettos in the making. Programmes suitable for countries hosting foreign immigration and endogenous migration should be drawn up in the light of the experience of the past decade.

31. On the basis of existing or future case-studies, UNESCO could coordinate a multidisciplinary survey on the rise of intolerance and the forms of exclusion existing in the developed countries, by devising a social therapy incorporating the progress made in communication and the existence of supranational decision-making mechanisms.

32. Under the same conditions as in the past, the organization could undertake to collect or create its own studies on countries that are ahead of the others in the integration process and the achievement of social peace. The examples of Canada and Switzerland, two countries descended from different founders, could be given priority, even though they too have their dysfunctional aspects, thus proving that tolerance is an ideal that is constantly in the making and should never be taken for granted.

APPENDIX III

UNESCO Executive Board decision 5.4.3

(adopted on 28 May 1993)

5.4.3 Proclamation of United Nations year for tolerance and declaration on tolerance

The Executive Board

1. Recalling UNESCO's prime vocation, which is to construct the defences of peace in the minds of men through international cooperation in education, science, culture and communication,

2. Convinced of UNESCO's responsibility for contributing, in its fields of competence, to peace, respect for human rights and the elimination of all forms of discrimination and intolerance,

3. Noting that new conflicts are breaking out in all the world's regions, which is a clear sign of inability to understand or accept differences,

4. Having examined the Director-General's report on the proclamation of the United Nations Year for Tolerance (141 EX/17),

5. Recalling resolution 5.6, adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-sixth session,

6. Takes note of resolution 47/124 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations;

7. Requests the Director-General to continue, in close collaboration with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, the NGOs and the Member States, to prepare a plan of action for 1995, United Nations Year for Tolerance;

8. Takes note of the preliminary draft of the UNESCO declaration on tolerance prepared by the meeting of international experts (Istanbul, Turkey, 16-17 April 1993) and requests the Director-General to continue to hold widespread international consultations on the wording of a text to be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for formal adoption at the inauguration of the Year.

9. Also requests the Director-General to submit suggestions concerning the celebration of the Year for Tolerance to the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council;

10. Considers it essential that education for tolerance be given priority at all educational levels and, to that end, requests the Director-General to take into account the possibility of making

arrangements for the drafting, by a group of experts in education, the social sciences, psychology, ethics and religion, of a manual for primary-school pupils and a collection of reference texts for teachers, to enable them to teach pupils, from their earliest years, and in plain, lively language, the principles of tolerance, respect for others and a sense of responsible, active solidarity with all other human beings;

11. Invites the Director-General to encourage the National Commissions of the Member States to stage cultural, scientific and educational events for the United Nations Year for Tolerance, 1995;

12. Invites the Director-General to devote particular attention to the coordination of UNESCO's activities relating to the United Nations Year for Tolerance and to the following up of those activities.